

Yankee War Prisoner Deal Brews

Nixon May Set Date For U.S. Pullout

WASHINGTON (AP) — There are strong indications the Nixon administration is preparing to offer the North Vietnamese a date for total withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam in exchange for the release of American prisoners of war.

The possibility of such a trade offer before the November presidential election has been mentioned often in recent weeks, but Sen. Edward W. Brooke, R-Mass., said Monday night he had heard the offer will come "very soon."

Brooke, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee,

told the Greater Boston Young Republicans Club he is so certain he could almost predict it.

And a high-level State Department source said Brooke "appears to be on sound ground," but he would not discuss it further.

A spokesman for the State Department specifically refused to knock down the Brooke report but would not confirm it either.

Ambassador William Porter, chief U.S. negotiator at the Paris peace talks, who flew home secretly last week, conferred Monday with Secretary of State William P. Rogers, but there was no official report of what was discussed.

Presidential press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler, however, told newsmen earlier in the day that Porter would not be taking any specific new proposals back to the negotiating table when he

returns to Paris later in the week.

"There is nothing new to offer on the Paris peace talks," Ziegler said. He repeated the U.S. position that this country always is willing to enter into negotiations but "the other side has shown unwillingness to do so."

President Nixon said in a television interview Jan. 2 that the North Vietnamese in Paris had said "no deal" to a with-

drawal-for-prisoners exchange offer. But no such proposal has ever been made at the Paris talks.

Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., and Rep. Robert L. Leggett, D-Calif., both have said their talks with North Vietnamese negotiators convinced them such a trade is possible.

The North Vietnamese, however, indicated following the Nixon television statement that they were not dropping their in-

sistence that the United States abandon the Saigon government as a part of any settlement.

McGovern has accused the President of delaying any serious attempt to end the war "until his re-election campaign."

"Mr. Nixon's priorities for this election year," McGovern said, "place the survival of Gen. Thieu's government ahead of the release of our prisoners." The U.S. guarantee of support

for the Saigon government, often stated by Nixon in the past, was not mentioned in the Jan. 2 interview.

Asked whether by next November "there will be no Americans, land sea or air—no residual force—fighting in support of Laotians, Cambodians or South Vietnamese," Nixon said:

"That depends on one circumstance ... the situation with regard to our POWs."

The White House said later, however, that the United States was not dropping its support of President Thieu of South Vietnam, but the spokesman stopped short of saying that support had to be in the form of a residual U.S. force in the Southeast Asian country.

Last November, Congress passed—and the President signed—a military procurement bill including a statement that it was U.S. policy to set a date for withdrawal of American forces from Indochina. Nixon, however, said he would not be bound by that provision of the law.

Jap Soldier In Hiding 28 Years

Fled Into Guam's Jungle With Nine Others In 1944

AGANA, Guam (AP) — A man who told officials he is a former Japanese army sergeant and has been hiding in the jungle since World War II says, "It all seems like a dream."

"I keep thinking I'll wake up soon," Shoichi Yokoi said as he met with newsmen after two fishermen spotted him and subdued him near his cave home on Monday.

Guam Gov. Carlos Gamacho said first investigation showed no reason to disbelieve Yokoi's claim to be a Japanese army survivor, but Gamacho said he knew of no way to establish the claim conclusively.

With Camacho standing at his side and honorary Japanese Consul James Hintaku serving as an interpreter, Yokoi described his life since Americans landed an invasion force in 1944.

He said he and nine other soldiers fled into the jungle in 1944 and the group gradually dwindled to two other men and himself. He said he had been alone since the two others died within a short time eight years ago.

The 5-foot-4 Yokoi said he is 58. Doctors said he weighed only 90 pounds and was anemic, but was otherwise in surprisingly good physical condition.

Yokoi said he was afraid to come out of hiding because he

didn't know what would happen to him. He said he subsisted on fish, coconuts and wild vegetation.

Camacho said he will return Yokoi to Japan as soon as possible.

In Japan, officials of Aichi prefecture reported that official notification of Yokoi's death was made to his father, Eihiro, on July 30, 1945, two weeks before Japan surrendered.

Eihiro died 23 years ago at the age of 68 and his mother, Tsuru, 14 years ago at 70. Shoichi had no brothers or sisters, but Osamu Yokoi, 42, who was adopted by Shoichi's mother 17 years ago, said she never believed the army's report of her son's death.

"If his mother had lived, she would be extremely happy," he added.

Bunzo Minagawa, 52, another Japanese veteran who was found on Guam 12 years ago, said he lived with Yokoi and eight others for about a month in the jungle 28 years ago but separated because of fear that a large group would be hard to hide.

"I can't believe he lived alone in the jungles," said Minagawa, who spent 16 years on the island in the company of another Japanese soldier, Tadashi Ito, 51.



MIDSHIPMAN?: Sen. Jacob K. Javits, R-N.Y., introduces Barbara Jo Brimmer, left, at a Capitol press conference. Javits has nominated the 17-year-old girl from Staatsburg, N.Y., for appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis. (AP Wirephoto)

FTC Moves Against Cereal's 'Big Four'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Trade Commission has acted to break up the multimillion-dollar breakfast-food industry with a proposed complaint against the nation's four largest cereal manufacturers.

The commission said Kellogg Co., General Mills, Inc., General Foods Corp. and Quaker Oats Co. maintain a highly concentrated market through such practices as false advertising and price fixing.

They have "illegally monopolized" cereal promotion and production for the past 30 years, the FTC said Monday.

The proposed complaint said the four engage in "proliferation of brands and trademark

production; artificial differentiation of products; unfair methods of competition in advertising and product promotion; restrictive shelf-space-control programs and acquisitions of competitors."

FTC Chairman Miles W. Kirkpatrick signed the complaint, along with commissioners Paul Rand Dixon and Mary Gardiner Jones. Commissioners Everett McIntyre and David S. Dennison Jr. dissented.

Kellogg replied that the FTC allegations were "based on theories that have never been tried or tested."

A spokesman said the commission "has said it is wrong to

be big, wrong to be efficient, and wrong to succeed."

A General Mills spokesman called the action "legally untenable."

"General Mills will resist today's action," the company said following Monday's FTC announcement.

General Foods said it "remained convinced that the cereal industry is extremely competitive and we should know, since we have to struggle every day to maintain our competitive position in the marketplace."

The four companies, the FTC said, control 91 per cent of the ready-to-eat-cereal market in the United States.

They would have 60 days to

respond to the proposed complaint under normal FTC practice, then it would become final. After that, the matter may be appealed to federal courts.

The commission proposal urged:

—"Divestiture of assets, including plants and other facilities, for the formation of new corporate entities to engage in the manufacture, distribution and sale of ... cereals."

—"Prohibition of acquisition of stock or assets of firms engaged in the business of manufacturing or selling" cereals.

—"Prohibition, also, of 'any practices found to be anticompetitive.'"

5-10 Below Predicted For Tonight

Toss Another Log On The Fire!

Cold air being pumped down from Canada from behind a big cyclonic weather system that moved across upper Michigan overnight is expected to drive the mercury to 5 to 10 degrees below zero in southwestern Michigan tonight.

This area generally escaped predicted freezing rain and moderately heavy snow from the storm system that produced a gigantic blizzard across the Upper Peninsula.

However, strong blustery

winds raked this area overnight and this morning, and caused a threat of high water damage to two roads at the rim of the South Haven harbor.

High westerly winds, measured at up to 50 miles an hour by the South Haven coast guards, sent waves rolling into the mouth of the harbor there, causing a backup of the Black river flow. Two roads in the harbor area were threatened by the swollen river level.

South Haven city street

crews were working this morning to save North Shore drive and Water street from washouts. The same area suffered damage under similar weather conditions in November of 1970.

Three school systems in northern Van Buren county were closed today, because of difficult driving conditions.

Light snow fanned by the strong winds reduced driving visibility and spread a light coat of snow across the roads. School systems closed were South Haven, Covert and Bangor. The middle and elementary schools in Bloomingdale were closed, but the Bloomingdale high school was in session.

The same blustery winds buffeted all of southwestern Michigan overnight and early today, but the snow generally was too light to produce traffic difficulties.

Most schools from Grand Rapids northward to Ludington were closed today.

The UP took the brunt of a

fierce Arctic snowstorm that swept that area Monday. All schools in the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula were closed because of the storm, and ferries to Drummond and Sugar islands were suspended. Sault Ste. Marie reported a 10-inch snowfall overnight, bringing to 25 inches the amount of white stuff on the ground.

Zollar Vows To Continue Welfare Residency Battle

The U.S. Supreme court Monday upheld earlier lower court rulings that laws requiring a one-year waiting period for welfare assistance in New York and Connecticut are unconstitutional.

The high court acted without a hearing. This method automatically affirmed the judgments of two federal district courts that the residence rule violates the constitutional rights of the poor people.

Republican State Sen. Charles Zollar of Benton Harbor responded to Monday's event by saying he will investigate to determine whether a constitutional suit can be filed against Congress.

Zollar told this newspaper today that if he can spearhead such a suit, it would be based on the same equal rights amendment (the 14th) of the U.S. Constitution, only this time seeking to protect equal rights of taxpayers.

As for a suit against Congress, Zollar said his earlier resolution calling for equal federal distribution of welfare funds among all states probab-

ly would form a legal base. This resolution has been approved by the Michigan legislature.

For a starter, the senator who heads the Senate appropriations committee, said he will confer soon with deans of the state's law schools at the University of Michigan and Wayne State university. Zollar said from these men he hopes to get advice on guidelines for a suit, if one is possible. Zollar said he then will confer

with national constitutional law experts.

Commenting on Monday's Supreme Court action, Zollar noted that the court acted by inaction — by not holding a hearing or rehearing, therefore allowing lower court rulings to remain in effect. "My hope would be that they (the court) would reconsider the matter," said Zollar.

Referring to the equal rights amendment as affecting the poor, Zollar said that the federal government pays only 50 per cent toward welfare outlays in Michigan, compared to 70 per cent paid to Arkansas and 90 per cent to Mississippi. He also said that a family of four can receive \$240 a month in welfare payments in Michigan, compared to only \$60 in Mississippi.

"Michigan, with an already high unemployment rate, has become home base for an influx of poor from other states," Zollar said. He added that these poor cannot find jobs or work, or they would not be on welfare at home in

the first place. "Because they can move about freely to collect higher welfare rates, there is a need to provide Michigan taxpayers the same protection under the 14th amendment," Zollar concluded.

New York and Connecticut set one-year residency laws for welfare recipients, claiming that the states faced financial crises. When lower courts struck down the laws of these states as unconstitutional, both appealed the decisions to the U.S. Supreme court. Connecticut officials were reported to say they might be forced to cut welfare payments across the board.

Action by the high court indicated to newsmen in Washington that despite the addition of four Nixon nominees, the court is not going to alter its position.

\$\$ Days. Style Shoppe. Adv.
Final reductions - many items 1/2 price. The Red Balloon. Adv.



SURRENDERS AT LAST: Shoichi Yokoi, right, a former Japanese army sergeant who has been hiding in the jungle since World War II, gets his first look at a television camera, held by Bill Gibson, during a news conference in Agana, Guam,

Monday. Pointing to the camera, center, is James Shintaku, honorary Japanese consul on Guam. Yokoi said he fled into the jungle on Guam in 1944 as he fled from American invasion forces. (AP Wirephoto via cable from Tokyo)

INDEX

SECTION ONE

EditorialsPage 2
Twin Cities NewsPage 3
Women's NewsPages 4,5,6
Ann LandersPage 6
ObituariesPage 11

SECTION TWO

Area HighlightsPage 13
SportsPages 14,15
Outdoor TrailPage 16
Radio, TV, ComicsPage 23
Market NewsPage 24
Classified
AdsPages 25,26,27

THE HERALD-PRESS

Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher
Bert Lindendorf, Managing Editor

Remapping The County Board

A five-member apportionment commission has a March 6th deadline in which to determine the size of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners and the areas from which those representatives are to be elected.

The commission has scheduled three hearing dates, each starting at 7:30 p.m., at which the public is welcome to offer suggestions.

The first of those meetings is a week from today at the New Buffalo township hall. The next is February 3rd at the Niles city hall. The third comes on February 8th at the Benton township hall.

Members of the commission, designated by state law, are the prosecuting attorney, the county clerk, the county treasurer, and the chairman of the county Democratic and Republican committees.

The commission is acting under a legislative directive which reinforces recent state and federal court opinions holding that elective offices must be selected under the one man-one vote doctrine.

This re-apportionment must be conducted as U. S. Census taking is conducted periodically.

The Michigan legislature a few years ago declared the new style county boards may consist of from five to 21 members.

Berrien county adopted the maximum under this local option provision.

The current question is whether this allowable maximum should be retained or dropped to a lesser amount.

The 1970 Census, one still being debated as to how many of Uncle Sam's nephews and nieces went uncounted throughout the country, specially in the urban areas, puts Berrien's population at not quite 163,950

Role Played By Comets

Comets, according to one theory, are hunks of ice which have gathered pieces of debris from the universe. Their wide ranging orbits take them around the sun and to the farthest outposts of the solar system.

This makes them ideal natural spies for scientists filling in theories about the origin of the solar system, the composition of the planets and the order of the universe in general.

Trouble is, science has not learned to interpret the signals given off by comets in their travels. Scientists still seek important clues to their composition, which they need if they are to understand the reactions of comets to other planets.

Even at this stage of scientific progress, the scientist with a well developed curiosity and average amount of ingenuity doesn't need much else to enable him to peer into the universe and gain an insight no one had before.

Controlling The Magic Box

The world is becoming increasingly computerized. It is much more convenient for the government if people allow themselves to become numbers and their personal particulars mere holes punched in cards.

There is a sense of wonder at what computers can do. To be able to press a few buttons and produce, say, the number of people aged 33 with fair hair and blue eyes who like asparagus is no mean achievement, and one at which those who do not understand the mysteries can be forgiven for marveling.

THE HERALD-PRESS
Published daily except Sunday by the
Ludlum Publishing Co. at 116 State St., St. Joseph,
Michigan 49085. Second class postage paid at
St. Joseph, Mich.

Volume 82, Number 20

MEMBER OF
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled
to the use for publication of all news dispatches
credited to it or not otherwise credited to the
Herald-Press and also the local news published
herein. All rights for re-publication of special
dispatches herein reserved.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
All Carrier Service 75¢ per week
Motor Route Service \$3.75 per month
In advance
Mail in Berrien, Cass, Allegan and Van Buren
Counties \$30.00 per year
All Other Mail \$40.00 per year
All mail subscriptions payable in advance.
Mail orders not accepted where carrier service
is available.

persons.

If the County Board's membership is retained at 21 members, each Commissioner theoretically would be elected by and speak for just over 7,800 people. If the membership is reduced to the minimum of five, the ratio becomes 1 to almost 32,800. The ratio on an in-between figure of 14 Commissioners, a number being mildly gossiped about in the court house, is 1 to slightly more than 11,700.

Drawing comparisons in the numbers game can take the reader in any direction he wishes.

On a head count, one U. S. Representative is the voice for about half a million people back home; Charlie Zollar, our State Senator, speaks for over 200,000 people; Harry Gast, Jr., and Ray Mittan, our State Representatives, are the voices for 80,000 apiece; our five city commissioners in St. Joseph and the seven members on the St. Joseph school board are elected at large, but, per grade school arithmetic, they stand respectively for ratios of 1 to 2,400 and 1 to 3,500.

Since Berrien's population divided by the County Board's constituency falls between these extremes, one way of looking at the reapportionment is to say it makes no difference if the 21 maximum is kept or some lesser number is adopted.

Our feeling is to stick with the 21 maximum.

The apportionment commission must establish contiguous districts which, in turn, means squaring off each district as best it can and, if at all possible, not city, township and precinct lines.

The commission seemingly has a five per cent population variance to work with, that is, the courts have indicated that this much deviation from one elective area to another satisfies the spirit in one man-one vote.

Ordinarily, the larger the number of districts the easier it is to meet that qualification.

Consequently, it would seem the chance for least disturbing the present quite workable division of the County Board should be better with a 21 divider than a smaller one.

Another advantage to the larger number is in giving more areas within the county a voice in court house affairs. The smaller this representation goes, the less the opportunity for the many communities to make their problems known.

There was a time when the County Board was nothing more than a cauldron of city and township lobbies.

If nothing else, the one man-one vote rule silenced that babble. It has upgraded county government and given it a needed wider base on which to strengthen local government in general.

Yet the separate communities have their own questions which deserve the right answers, and by drastically reducing the Board's membership, the opportunity grows for failing in that requirement.

ing.

Yet it is disturbing to think that these electronic wonders of which homo sapiens are so justifiably proud are, in reducing him to numerals, ignoring the human personality which insists on its uniqueness.

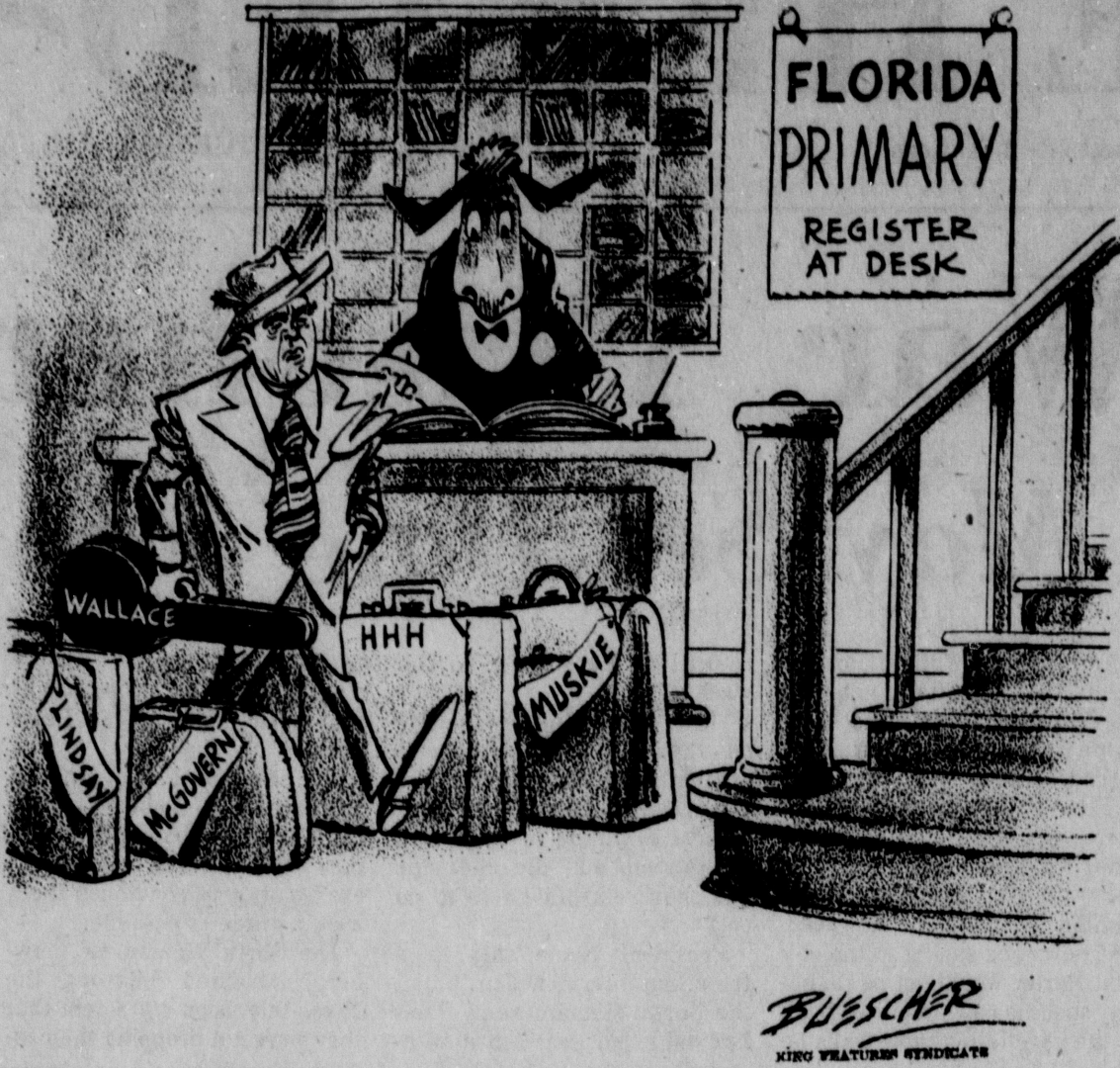
It is impossible to turn back the clock, so the individual can protect himself only if he demands that the computer remain a servant, faithful and obedient. "Man must be master of the machine," said Sir Robert Watson-Watt, the discoverer of radar, "not the machine master of man."

The problem of the future is how to retain the mastery. Mankind will tolerate for only a short time the indignity of being reduced to a cipher. In the past his reaction of revulsion has often taken the form of anarchy. The machine has an endless appetite. It grows with what it feeds on.

A computer may come up with a result which would baffle the brain of man to produce, but it can never provide the magic of creativity, the judgment based on wisdom and individual experience. These are the true essence of the human spirit.

If they can be preserved and defended against the encroachment of "magic boxes," then man has nothing to fear.

The Spoiler



GLANCING BACKWARDS

MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY WILL BOUNCE BACK

1 Year Ago

While Michigan suffers more than the rest of the country during economic hard times, it should bounce back better, says a University of Michigan professor of finance.

If the nation's economy expands 7 per cent this year, Michigan's industrial output should gain by 10 to 14 per cent, says Thomas G. Gies.

MULTI-STAGE ROCKET FAILS

10 Years Ago

Rocket failure today ruined an attempt to boost five satellites into orbit simultaneously to probe a number of space mysteries.

The space quintuplets hurled into the sky at 4:30 a.m. cradled snugly in the nose of an 80-foot Thor-Able-Star rocket. The first stage of the 55-ton rocket performed normally and observers at the Cape saw the second stage ignite. But 20 minutes after launch the Defense Department announced the upper stage failed to build up sufficient thrust after ignition and the entire rocket assembly plunged in the Atlantic Ocean far downrange.

GAIN VICTORIES ON SEA AND LAND

30 Years Ago

Fresh Japanese troops supported by guns of warships have wrested a number of positions on the west coast of the Bataan peninsula in the Philippines from the American-Filipino defenders.

A war department communiqué reporting this today, said that the foe was expelled

from some points by fierce counter attacks, but other points remained in the enemy's possession.

TO BE SPEAKER

40 Years Ago

The Rev. Louis Neuchterlein of Trinity Lutheran church was accorded a new honor when he was invited to be toastmaster at the general church convention next June. The national affair is to be held this year in Milwaukee.

AUTO SHOW

50 Years Ago

Oscar Anderson, Henry Burkhard, Earl Jennings and

W. T. Mullen are in Chicago for the automobile show.

RETURNS FROM TRIP

60 Years Ago

Henry C. Gersonde of Fetke and Gersonde store has returned from a two weeks' business trip to Hendersonville, N. C.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS

80 Years Ago

President W. W. Bean was in Chicago making final arrangements for the material and equipment for the electric railway and soon will have the work of the construction under way.

EDITOR'S MAILBAG

Editor,
The Herald-Press.

SAYS TAXPAYERS WERE MISLED

When Michigan taxpayers voted in 1968 a \$100 million Bond issue for parks and recreation, little did they know the form in which allocated portions would be returned to the counties. The Berrien County Parks and Recreation committee, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Bun Baldwin, seems ready to accept Berrien's \$500,000 share, request a matching \$500,000 from HUD and follow explicit directions from the Department of Natural Resources as to its use, and with all the strings attached. At a meeting January 20th, Mr. Baldwin claimed a Mr. Joseph Seevey from the DNR approached his committee last fall to encourage the application for the \$500,000 to use in a new indoor recreation center to be located at Lake Michigan College. The \$500,000 and matching HUD funds would permit \$900,000 for construction of a building and \$100,000 for equipment. The County presently owns the 11.7 acres of land. LMC has promised para-professional training for recreational directors and use of its established facilities, a drive is underway for donated architectural expertise, and Model Cities is cooperative with promised expanded use of its two minibuses to provide transportation to and from the site.

It was freely admitted the primary drive for the Center is to provide indoor recreation year round for the underprivileged, poor, young and retired people in the Benton Harbor - Benton Township area. Though committeeman Mr. Harry Nye suggested the Center would provide a coordinating agency for indoor recreation for the entire County, the major emphasis would be year round indoor recreation for the Benton Harbor inner city residents. The County plan calls for a 1/2 mill vote to pay recreational directors' salaries and upkeep of the building; maintenance of the grounds will be provided by LMC. The package will cost the taxpayers of the County \$373,000 per year, a goodly sum for the total County population of 164,000.

The plan provides four major areas of activities, all

activities totaling 131 beginning with Basketry and ending with Scavenger Hunts.

There are many questions to be answered, namely, 1) Do Berrien County residents wish to use their recreation allocation on an indoor facility? 2) Do taxpayers feel LMC is the best location for the entire County? 3) Are taxpayers willing to pay \$373,000 per year for activities already offered in community education centers? 4) Would the taxpayers in the mid, southern, and eastern sections of Berrien be willing to travel to LMC to take advantage of proposed activities? 5) Would taxpayers support an alternative plan such as outdoor parks and park land acquisition? 6) Are Berrien County taxpayers willing to accept the dictates of the State of Michigan concerning what we need, where it will be located and who will use it.

The 1/2 mill proposal is expected to be presented on the November 2, 1972 ballot.

Truly,
DONNA ASSELIN
United For Survival

BERRY'S WORLD



"He says he can't decide which he'd rather be when he grows up—a poet or president of the United States—so he's writing Eugene McCarthy!"

Bruce Blossat

Enemy Preparing TV Spectacular



WASHINGTON (NEA) — U.S. defense officials are apprehensive that the North Vietnamese armies operating in South Vietnam are soon to record the best American television spectacular they've had since their winter offensive of 1969.

Most of the informed speculation thus far has centered on Hanoi's buildup of men and materiel in and near what is called Military Region Two — a very lightly populated central highlands area with such interior cities as Kontum and Pleiku.

Though judgments here are that the South Vietnamese ground and air forces, aided some by U.S. air, have the strength ultimately to turn back the assaults, there is concern that the Reds may slash into eastern coastal cities before being repulsed.

Possible targets on the South China seacoast are Nha Trang, Qui Nhon, and the Cam Ranh bay area, to name a few.

If the attackers get to Cam Ranh, they will of course encounter some of the U.S. units still stationed there in defense of a major U.S. logistical base. Some Korean forces also are emplaced in the central coastal zone.

The view at Defense is that the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong need enter one or more coastal towns only

briefly to score heavily on American television. Our officials think they will be thrown out and that the whole highland offensive will cost the enemy enormously in lives — but that Hanoi will measure the gain in prime time on the American tube and consequent impact on U.S. opinion.

That is not the only worry in military circles. They look for Hanoi to stir things up all over the place, in the populous, rich southern delta, in the vulnerable border territory around Tay Ninh, in and around Saigon itself, and Military Region One up north close to the Demilitarized Zone.

The purpose, it is felt, will not necessarily be to win anything big this winter, but to suggest to war-weary Americans that South Vietnam is hopelessly vulnerable and we just ought to get everybody out quick and forget it.

There seems to be reasonable confidence here that Saigon and the delta region can be protected, even if some inroads are made.

The outlook at the critical DMZ is mixed. The feeling is that North Vietnamese attacks there would be, at first anyway, largely a diversion intended to pin down some veteran South Vietnamese divisions so they could not move to the defense of Region Two to the south.

Jeffrey Hart

Strategy Of Renrise: 1972



In the Vietnamese War, the Communists have repeatedly employed the classic strategy of reprise — the virtually textbook repetition of a previously successful move. For example, their employment of the U. S. prisoners of war as a psychological-political weapon exactly parallels their use of the French prisoners taken at Dien Bien Phu.

The strategy of reprise rests on a sound assumption: If something succeeds once, it must have some merit, and is very likely to succeed again.

But the strategy of reprise does possess the disadvantage of permitting the alert antagonist to anticipate and therefore prepare for one's moves. Thus, on January 30, 1968, with the New Hampshire Presidential primary imminent, the Communists launched their famous Tet offensive. Four years later there is every sign that they are preparing another such spectacular.

And again, as in 1968, there is next to no chance that the Communists can accomplish anything of military signifi-

cance. Just as in 1968, the real goal will be political — the effect of the attack upon U. S. public opinion and on the newly convened Congress.

In a very real sense the significant battles will be fought not on the ground in Vietnam, but on the TV screen in the American living rooms.

In his suburb study of the 1968 Tet offensive which was published last year, Washington Post correspondent Don Oberdorfer demonstrates how the public received an entirely distorted impression of the Tet offensive via the TV screen. At the very moment the Communists were undergoing a startling blood-bath in the real world, and in fact were suffering a shattering defeat, the electronic images powerfully suggested that they were scoring important victories.

The first films to reach a U. S. audience showed the attack on the U. S. embassy in Saigon. It first was shown on the Huntley-Brinkley evening news. Later the same night it was replayed on a 30-minute NBC Television News special, "Vietcong Terror: A Guerrilla Offensive," and on a 30-minute CBS special report, "Saigon Under Fire."

Focusing on the embassy fighting, the film gave the impression of an entire city under siege. Actually, the action was limited and insignificant; life in the city went on as usual; and all the Communists were slaughtered.

Later films gave a similarly misleading impression of the action elsewhere, and a sense of shock swept the U. S. At the same time, however, cables from the scene were providing officials in Washington with an entirely different impression of events, and this second impression turned out to be factually correct. The Tet offensive, failing everywhere, was an unimaginable military disaster. The Communists were losing some 60,000 men, carefully husbanded at that time. The U. S. casualties were some 3,000 and total allied casualties were less than 10,000. Yet accurate reports could not counteract the initial impression produced by the TV films. As Oberdorfer says, "The Vietcong were being decisively beaten in the Saigon cables, but they were scoring great feats on television and in the press."

North Shore Decision Months Away

BHEA Attorney Opposes Transfer

By ALAN AREND

Staff Writer

LANSING — Two contesting parties arrived at a State Department of Education hearing Monday without attorneys, but legal counsel showed up for an intervening third party.

Atty. James White of Lansing, representing Benton Harbor Education association, was allowed to question witnesses at the hearing in which the Benton Harbor district

opposed transfer of West North Shore - Lafayette to St. Joseph.

White's participation drew an objection from a spokesman for West North Shore-Lafayette residents, but Benton Harbor Supt. Raymond Sreboth did not oppose his presence.

Atty. White said transfers will not solve problems, but will lead to further problems and if anyone should be transferred, it should be the

inner-city children so a racial balance can be achieved.

The Benton Harbor Education association is bargaining agent for the district's 540 teachers.

Raymond Godmer, State Department of Education hearing officer, heard testimony for 6½ hours, then indicated a decision by the State Board of Education may be months away.

Final transcripts of yesterday's hearing must be prepared

and sent to all parties involved. This could take up to two months and then all parties have 20 days in which to file objections to the report, before it is even eligible for State Board action.

The hearing on West Fairplain's transfer appeal ended Aug. 30, 1971 and still has not come before the State board. Godmer indicated that West Fairplain might come before the State Board in February. Sodus township petitioners are

also waiting in the wings for the State board to rule on their transfer appeal.

Testimony presented yesterday in the main auditorium of the Seven Story Office building, behind the State Capital, was nearly identical to that given before the Berrien Intermediate Board last May with a few exceptions.

West North Shore-Lafayette petitioners told the State hearing panel that the North Shore elementary school building

could stay in the Benton Harbor district even if the transfer was granted, if St. Joseph didn't want it.

Neither of the major parties concerned, the Benton Harbor Area school district and the West North Shore-Lafayette petitioners were represented by counsel at yesterday's hearing.

Allowing Atty. White to take part in the hearing drew strong objection from P.W. McDonald, a resident who

headed the west North Shore-Lafayette contingent.

Testifying on behalf of the petitioners besides McDonald, were: Richard E. Koch, resident; Sherrill E. Hudson, Benton Harbor realtor; Elmer Parchert, resident; Mrs. Charles Duncan, resident; and Mrs. William Lacy, resident. Testifying on behalf of the Benton Harbor Area Schools besides Sreboth were: Thomas

(See Page 11 Col. 1)

BH Board Takes Issue With Teacher's Charges

The board of education of Benton Harbor Area schools has taken issue with the statement Saturday by the Benton Harbor Education association in which the BHEA charges that the Board has

rejected the fact finders report issued by fact-finder George T. Roumell, Jr.

Board President, Oliver Rector, said today that the board, in fact, has accepted the fact-finders report with some modifications dictated by financial necessity.

The BHEA Saturday called for resignations of all board members because of alleged failure to adopt the fact-finder's report.

Rector said the following statement was issued on behalf of the board:

"1. The board believes it has negotiated in good faith with representatives of the teachers, commencing in mid-March, 1971.

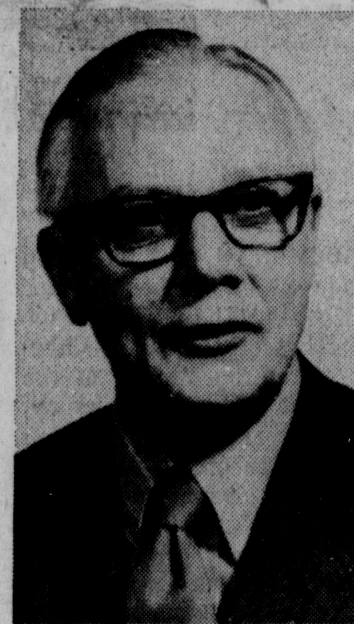
"2. The board is agreeable to the acceptance of the fact-finders report, subject to securing the millage needed to provide the revenue required to finance the salary schedule recommended by the fact-finder for the 1972-1973 school year. (The fact-finders report calls for a starting base salary for 1972-1973 of \$7975.00). In his report, the fact-finder said, 'one of the problems in arriving at a salary schedule in Benton Harbor is the insistence of the teachers in adhering to what has become a very advantageous index system, namely, the present 6 per cent index, (annual raises based on experience). The teachers have insisted on this

and by doing so cannot necessarily compare themselves with other school districts who do not have the advantage of such an attractive index system which affects teachers at all steps."

"3. The board has agreed to a base salary of \$7650.00 and full family health insurance with no options for the current year 1971-1972 with a maximum

(See Page 11 Col. 2)

Leo Rutz Named A Director



LEO C. RUTZ

Leo C. Rutz of Watervliet recently was elected a director of Peoples Savings Association for a two-year term.

Rutz, a lifelong resident of Berrien county, has been in the insurance business since 1936, and is presently president of the Rutz - Smith Agency of St. Joseph.

He has also served on the Berrien county Planning Commission for several years.

Directors re-elected to three year terms at the annual meeting included Merle P. Durren, Frederick H. Rahn and Millard Dean.

Association president Robert H. Durren reported that the mortgage loan department made over \$10 million in loans, the savings department had a growth of over \$5 million and dividends paid for the year totaled \$2,883,700.00.

Army Experiment A Headache For SJ Commission

The Army Corps of Engineers has given St. Joseph city commissioners a couple of minor headaches in the form of gates at the water line on the north and south piers.

The Corps wants the city of

St. Joseph to assume the responsibility of opening and closing the gates during the inclement weather in the spring, summer and fall months. The gates are removed by the Corps during the winter months.

Headache No. 1, as explained by City Manager Leland Hill, is finding personnel among city employees with time to take over this job. Even the Coast Guard has refused, said Hill.

Headache No. 2 came to light last night at the city commission meeting when the city's liability in case of accident was questioned.

It was pointed out by Mayor W. H. "Duke" Ehrenberg that while the piers are government property, he felt that the city was leaving itself open for damage suits in case of accidents.

City Atty. A. J. Preston was instructed to write the Corps district headquarters in Detroit and get a clarification on the position of the city of St. Joseph in the case of accident.

There are no guidelines for action due to the fact that St. Joseph is the only city in the country where the Corps has installed gates on piers.

"It's an experiment by the Corps," explained Hill. "No other city has gates and the Corps just left them open last summer."

Hill told the commissioners that the city has collected "over \$700" so far this season at the Whittlesey avenue skating rink.

Monthly departmental reports submitted to the commission showed that the police department, in the month of December, made 64 criminal arrests, 139 traffic arrests, investigated 69 automobile accidents, issued 625 two hour parking tickets and 465 tickets for "other" parking violations.

Lakeshore High Library Named For R.J. Johnson

The newly remodeled library at Lakeshore high school will be named the R. James



R. JAMES JOHNSON Memorialized

LMC Ski Club Slates Style Show

Fashion conscious skiers can attend a Winter Wonderland style show at the Lake Michigan college student center on Wednesday during the noon hour.

The show, sponsored by the LMC ski club, will spotlight fashions for men and women in the latest ski apparel. The apparel will be furnished by Gardner's favorite sports of Benton Harbor. The style show is free, and open to the public. Lunch will be available in the LMC cafeteria during the show.

Will Initiate Two Members

St. Joseph Elks No. 541 will initiate Richard Shafer and Barry J. Davis at ceremonies Thursday in the lodge, Exalted Ruler Farrell Bender announced today.

Two men, Harry Peterson and Clinton Emmert, are transferring into the St. Joseph lodge. Sponsors for the two new members are Warren Shafer and Lester Tiscornia.

Johnson Memorial library in honor of the late member of the Lakeshore school board.

The tribute was authorized by the school board during a meeting yesterday in advance of the Feb. 13 open house and reception during which the formal dedication in honor of Mr. Johnson will be made.

Expansion and improvement of the high school library were part of a \$2.9 million building program now virtually complete at the high school and four elementary schools. On Feb. 13 the public is invited to review improvements to the high school, including a new auditorium and classroom wing.

Mr. Johnson served as the vice president of the school board. He had been elected to his second term on the board just before his death last June 27. He was a member of the Benton Harbor accounting firm of Herkner, Smits, Miskill and Johnson.

In other business yesterday, the board filled two teaching vacancies by approving contracts for Mrs. Carol Wroblewski, and Mrs. Toni Blenderman, both English teachers.

Mrs. Blenderman replaces Mrs. Anita Rutland, now on a leave of absence, and Mrs. Wroblewski returns to the high school to take over parttime teaching load of Mrs. Jeanne Baker, who moved from the state.

Jaycees Looking For New Members

The Twin Cities Area Jaycees, inactive for three years until recently, will hold a membership meeting open to all interested young men. The session will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Memorial hall, 415 Lake boulevard, St. Joseph.

Richard Fairchild, membership chairman, said the organization has acquired 20 members in the last three months and elected officers, as result of an effort to make it an active group again.

The meeting Thursday is open to all young men between 18 and 35 years of age who would like to get involved in civic and youth activities, Fairchild stated.

He said that persons at the meeting will have the opportunity to discuss with the Jaycees the present and future plans of the organization.

The officers of the Jaycees are: Donald Lang, president; Al Vingelen, treasurer; Mike Simeck, vice-president; and Glenn Nienhuis, secretary.



KILOGRAM CAKE: Mrs. Robert Moffatt, wife of a professional engineer, checks recipe of "Kilogram (pound) Cake" with Irvin W. Lloyd, (left), Chicago, a U. S. Department of Commerce international trade specialist who spoke on metrication last night to the Twin City chapter of professional engineers. At right is Ed Eaman, program chairman. (Staff photo)

Predicts Change To Metric System

The metric system is coming and the big question is whether the conversion in the United States will be by drift or design.

Irvin W. Lloyd, of Chicago, an international trade specialist with the U. S. Department of Commerce, told members of the Benton Harbor-St. Joseph chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers last night at Ramada

Inn of the need for orderly transition to the measuring system the rest of the world uses.

Lloyd was speaking for Gerald M. Marks, director of the department's Chicago office who was prevented from coming by illness. Marks, a professional engineer, however sent an appeal to the engineers here that the profession should take a leading role in

explaining the advantage of the metric system over the present inch-pound standards.

Several centuries ago an Anglo-Saxon king, Edward, stretched out his arm and ordered that the span from the tip of his nose to the end of his finger be notched on a stick, Lloyd said. He decreed this is a yard. Eight centuries

(See Page 11 Col. 3)

SJ 'Dollar Days' To Add Funds To Vienna Kitty

St. Joseph merchants will make their popular "dollar days" a convenient opportunity for shoppers to help the St. Joseph high school band go to Vienna to compete in an international music festival.

The annual winter "dollar days" will be Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 26 to 29.

The St. Joseph Retail Merchants association has proposed the "On to Vienna Dollar Days" be a two-part plan to help the band. Merchants have voted to set aside a percentage of their sales or make a specific gift to the band, according to Fred Thomas, chairman of "On to Vienna Dollar Days." Canisters will be set up in all participating stores and customers will be requested to drop in change they receive after making purchases.

The St. Joseph bandsmen turned out a quantity of the canisters. On Saturday they will post a uniformed bandsmen at each canister as a reminder of the Vienna trip and to personally thank donors.

The band has been invited to participate in the International Festival of Musical Youth in Vienna, Austria, July 11-16. A budget of \$70,000 has been set to finance the trip. Bandsmen will raise a good share of the expenses themselves. Chaperones will pay their own expenses.

The band has been busy raising funds in a variety of ways and has been receiving assistance from many sources.

When the Farmers and Merchants National bank opened a branch bank at Hilltop road and Washington avenue a \$1,000 gift was given to the Vienna fund.

Recently Robert Sheeley of Burger Chef, 2901 Niles avenue, St. Joseph, launched a plan to redeem coupons costing \$1 with \$1.50 worth of sandwiches, the money to go to the band. The tickets are being sold by Milton Junior High school bandsmen.

Dennis Ottavi of Dunkin Donuts, Niles avenue at Highland, St. Joseph announced a plan to donate 25 cents for each dozen doughnuts sold between 6 and 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. At the same time bandsmen set up a free delivery service for orders of two or more dozen doughnuts.

Fred Thomas of the Peoples State bank, is chairman of the "On to Vienna Dollar Days" assisted by Dwight Edmunds, Mrs. Eunice Hughes and Phil Medo.

BH Mother's March Gets Good Results

A traditional annual "Mother's March" of door-to-door solicitation Sunday in Benton Harbor for March of Dimes contributions produced at least \$765.18.

George Westfield, Benton Harbor MOD drive chairman, said preliminary returns from 107 mothers and volunteers coordinated by Mrs. Helen Ford showed the equivalent of 7,651.8 dimes contributed.

Westfield said he and Mrs. Ford were "delightfully pleased." Other area communities will hold similar marches this coming weekend.

Mothers' marches are being held for the 31st year in Berrien county. Funds go for nursing scholarships, a birth defect center in Ann Arbor, prenatal education classes in Benton Harbor, medical services to victims of polio and birth defects in Berrien county, and research on birth defects.

Prosecutor Sees Better Results In '72

Welfare Fraud Unit Called Success



RONALD J. TAYLOR
Berrien Prosecutor

By BRANDON BROWN
Staff Writer

Berrien Prosecutor Ronald J. Taylor today termed his welfare support and fraud unit's activities for 1971 an "unprecedented success" and hinted even better results for 1972.

In a year-end report for 1971 released today, Taylor listed the welfare support and fraud unit's accomplishments during its first full year as:

—Obtaining court judgments for child support valued, at a 100 per cent collection rate, at \$380,000 a year.

—Screening 114 possible welfare fraud cases, resulting in 53 warrants for arrest and 24 cases in court to date with only two acquittals.

—And doing it at a cost of

\$28,290, or a net return of \$5.69 in collections for every Federal-State dollar spent on the program.

For 1972, the welfare support and fraud unit will be bolstered by adding a half-time attorney to the one fulltime now on duty and by moving the entire unit from the prosecutor's office in the courthouse, St. Joseph, to the Berrien Social Services department office in Benton township, Taylor's report said.

These changes are expected to produce additional team services in 1972, including efforts to investigate and prosecute child neglect in welfare families, aiding the Berrien social services and health departments with housing problems and "general

legal consultation within the Department of Social Services itself."

The welfare support and fraud unit — now comprised of fulltime Atty. Jack Struwin, part-time Atty. Edward Skinner, Investigator John Gillespie, and a paternity clerk-secretary — moved to the Berrien Social Services office as of Jan. 19.

In child support cases for 1971, the special unit interviewed 1,170 clients and initiated 420 family support and paternity suits in Berrien circuit court plus a corresponding 100 suits in courts outside Michigan. Further, several hundred cases were referred to the Berrien friend of the court's office for processing in or out of court to

obtain child support payments.

As a result of team action, at the end of 1971 judgments were on the Berrien county court books that would produce \$380,000 annually, Taylor's report said.

"While it is unrealistic to anticipate that 100 per cent of these judgments will be collected," it added, "we believe the first year's operations demonstrate that great progress is being made toward that goal."

While some but not all of these judgments were in force in 1971, child support collections returned to the Department of Social Services by fathers helping to support Aid to Dependent Children recipients rose 99 per cent while the caseload rose only 15 per cent

compared to 1970, Taylor's report said.

"In 1970 the total child support collections were \$185,556 on an ADC caseload of 2,748 (families). In 1971 the caseload increased by 15 per cent to 3,160 families. Assuming that this caseload would have resulted in 15 per cent more collections under normal circumstances, we can project that collections during 1971 without (the prosecutor's) support unit would have amounted to approximately \$213,000.

"Therefore it is apparent that additional collections directly due to the efforts of the support unit approximate \$156,355."

In addition, the report said, the special unit in 1971 produced \$4,642 in restitution for

fraudulently-obtained welfare, bringing the special unit's total worth to approximately \$161,000.

"It should be noted that the actual expenditures in the program during 1971 were \$28,290 (in state-federal funds, plus local goods and services). Therefore, for every dollar spent on the program ... the net return was \$5.69."

The report said of some 400 cases reviewed by the Berrien Social Services Department for possible fraud, 114 were referred to the prosecutor's special unit. Of these, 61 were referred back to social services with a recommendation to seek restitution and have produced \$4,642.35, with more coming.

Of the balance, 53 have resulted in warrants — with 24 persons in court and only two acquittals to date — while six await trial, 13 warrants remain outstanding for inability to serve the defendants, and 10 have been disposed of through agreements for restitution or other arrangements.

Taylor's report commends Berrien Social Services Director Wesley P. Bowerman and his staff, with whom the prosecutor's staff works closely, and the welfare support and fraud unit's chief in 1971, Assistant Prosecutor Ronald R. Moses. He now works fulltime on criminal matters.

ELEPHANT RAMPAGES
KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Ole Diamond, the Knoxville Municipal Zoo's elephant, went on a rampage and ripped out plumbing fixtures and heating pipes from his quarters.

TRUSTEES FIND FUNDS FOR SHELL OF BUILDING

LMC's Phase III Gets Green Light

By JERRY KRIEGER
County-Farm Editor

Denied state approval recently to issue \$2.5 million in bonds to finance Phase III construction, Lake Michigan college trustees reached into other pockets last night and pulled together nearly \$1.5 million from various sources and gave a go-ahead to build final technologies wing in shell form.

Starting with \$520,186 on hand from a Phase II bond

issue, the board and administration added an already approved state grant of \$350,000 and a federal grant of \$105,000 to muster \$975,000 toward an expected cost of \$1,700,000 for the "shell" structure. And shortly before last night's meeting, President James Lehman received word from Sen. Charles Zollar that the governor's 1972-73 budget proposal has another \$500,000 in it for the wing.

While some \$200,000 was still

unaccounted for, the board instructed the administration to proceed at once to advertise for bids. In addition to the brick and concrete exterior shell of the technologies wing, the project will include "stubby in" the plumbing, electrical and ventilating runs.

Board members noted the state's 1971-72 grant of \$350,000 for Phase III will expire June 30 if not committed by then, and the \$105,000 federal grant will be withdrawn unless con-

struction is under way by Sept. 1 of this year. They also noted the college must turn back the Upton Tech center on the old Britain avenue campus to the Benton Harbor Area schools no later than June 30, 1973.

President Lehman suggested optimistically that the first and possibly third floors of the three-story wing would also be completed on the inside by securing some additional government grants. He said the college already has spent a total of \$192,913 in Phase III foundations and architect's fees, and that this amount perhaps can be used as local matching shares for such added grants.

The LMC president also reported Sen. Zollar said enough surplus government equipment should be available to equip a very complete technologies center at virtually no cost except transportation charges.

If all goes well, construction on the shell building could get started by March 1, according to Lehman, who added it would take an estimated 16 to 18 months to complete the work.

Trustee Robert Small observed that an increased district tax base may give the college some money from the existing one-mill tax levy to devote to completing the building eventually. Another board member, Dr. B. C. Radde, said the board has discussed asking the voters for some additional millage, but added that such a course does not have active consideration at this time.

Robert VanArkel, acting director of buildings and grounds for the college, has been appointed permanent director of the department, it was announced last night. VanArkel, who resides at 387 East Glenford road, Royalton township, will supervise maintenance, custodial services, grounds work, college security, shipping and receiving, transportation, and handle other duties.

Trustees last night approved giving transfer credit to students who come to LMC after completing U.S. Armed Forces Institute courses, and to students who score high in the College Level Examination Program. Lehman said exceptionally bright high school graduates could earn up to a maximum of 30 credit hours by taking the College Level Examination tests.

In other actions last night, the trustees:

1. Approved payment of a \$17,459 balance to the Berrien county road commission on its share of the cost of paving Yore avenue along the east

side of the campus between Empire and Napier avenues. The college had paid \$10,000 earlier.

2. Approved a new schedule of rental fees for the use of college rooms. Generally fees were unchanged, and the charge for the student union and the gymnasium to commercial groups will be reduced, from \$150 to \$120.

3. Heard Ben Standen, assistant dean of technologies, outline four proposed new

technologies courses, to be started after the technologies wing is completed. The courses are Appliance Service Program, Management Techniques, Plastics Technician, and Die Casting Technician.

4. Appointed William Niemi, vice president for business affairs, and Walter Browe, executive vice president, to the board's bargaining team for contract negotiations with the faculty and other bargaining units.

5. Approved dropping a mandatory requirement that entering students must have taken the American College Test. A motion to drop a physical examination as an entrance requirement was tabled for further study.

6. Applauded the success of the LMC basketball team in the school's first year of return to intercollegiate athletic competition, and urged greater support by students and others.



EROSION WOES: State and federal officials learned of shoreline erosion troubles in the Berrien, Van Buren, Allegan and Ottawa county area during a public hearing in South Haven Monday. Other

officials in attendance included Col. Myron Snoko of the Corps of Army Engineers, speaking to several residents after formal session ended. (Tom Renner photo)

Big Push Begins In Lansing For Gas Tax Increase

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Legislative backers of a proposed two-cent increase in Michigan's seven-cents-per-gallon gasoline tax are bracing for an all-out push to pass the controversial package this week.

The crux of the total \$83.3 million that would be raised is a proposal to divert \$20.8 million—or half a cent of the increase—to a fund shared by the municipal transit systems of 11 cities across the state.

Highway, trucking, Teamster and auto club lobbies have been vigorous opponents of the proposal that Gov. William G. Milliken has labeled his No. 1 legislative priority.

But Monday, support for the long-stalled measure began rolling amid a flurry of position reversals and high-priced persuasion tactics.

In Detroit, chief executives of the four major auto companies

joined in an endorsement statement by the board of directors of Detroit Renaissance, Inc., chief civic booster of the city.

Max Fisher, wealthy Detroit philanthropist and chairman of Detroit Renaissance, announced the agreement signed by board chairmen Henry Ford II, of Ford Motor Co., Roy D. Chapin, of American Motors, Richard Gerstenberg of General Motors Corp., and Virgil Boyd, vice chairman of the board of Chrysler.

Fisher labeled the agreement "an historic departure from long-established opposition to diversion of state gasoline taxes from highway construction and maintenance."

He said, "The collective corporate decisions involved in reaching unanimous endorsement of this program would not lightly nor easily be reached."

And in Lansing, Milliken, who already has departed from usual practice to warn he will veto

any plan omitting the mass transit proposal, produced a "special message" on the subject.

He praised the package for its potential contribution to economic gain through the estimated \$62.4 million in highway development, and said it would offer "thousands of additional jobs outside the transportation industry."

Milliken also publicly reaffirmed his intention to overhaul the state's highway department into a combined department of transportation and highways that would include urban transit, aviation, waterways and ports in addition to present roadway supervision.

Across the street from the Capitol, urban transit interests and the Greater Detroit Board of Commerce staged a lavish banquet in a hotel for lawmakers who face a decision on the issue yet this week.

Feb. 4 Deadline For Covert Vote

COVERT — Deadline for registration to vote in the special March 6 Covert school district election is Feb. 4 at 5 p.m.

Residents of the district, which includes Covert township and portions of the Bangor, Coloma, Watervliet and South Haven area, may register with their respective township clerks.

The school board is seeking approval of a \$4,450,000 bond issue in the special election scheduled for March 6, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the township hall.

If approved, district bonds would be sold to finance a new middle school building, additions to the elementary school, high school, and gymnasium, a bus storage and maintenance garage, an athletic field, and additional land for site purposes.

State Department of Social Services has agreed to increase the rent contribution of persons on welfare from \$46 to \$76 per month for the low-rent project.

Increase In Rent Rejected

SOUTH HAVEN — A proposed increase in rent for the city of South Haven low-rent housing project has been denied by the federal price and wage control commission.

The proposed increase had been scheduled to take effect January 1.

Tenants pay rent based on a percentage of their income. The housing commission had proposed to increase the percentage from 21.8 to 25 per cent.

Executive Director Ronald Booth also reported at the commission's regular monthly meeting last night that the

Property Owners Offered Little Aid Against Erosion

By TOM RENNER
South Haven Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN — Owners of Lake Michigan shoreline property were offered little assurance that either state or federal government help is on the way to stop erosion that is eating away at more than one-third of the shoreline between Berrien and Ottawa counties.

More than 100 persons attended a public hearing here Monday to hear presentations from state and federal officials as well as to present their story to a group of legislators.

The hearing was the first of four to be held across the state this week by the Michigan Water Resources commission.

Legislators in attendance included State Sen. Gary Byker of Hudsonville, and State Rep. Bela Kennedy of Bangor, Harry Gast of Stevensville, Melvin De Stigter of Hudsonville and James Farnsworth of Plainwell.

Persons attending the hearing learned that both the state and federal government are conducting extensive shoreline erosion studies to determine the scope of the problem.

At the same time, the spokesmen said that neither the state or federal governments have funds available for erosion problems confronting private property owners. Federal participation is available on a limited basis if the elimination of erosion on private property is deemed a public necessity.

Bill Marks a staff member for the commission (WRC), urged citizens to contact their elected state and national officials to encourage assistance programs for the private property owner.

"We feel that the shoreline erosion situation is a long-term, persistent problem which needs long term solutions," said Marks.

"Legislation should be extended to protect private as well as public property along the Great Lakes" he added.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently concluded a shore erosion appraisal throughout the nation including all of the Great Lakes according to Col. Myron Snoko, Detroit district engineer for the Corps of Engineers.

He said that 90 per cent of

Lake Michigan's 2,070 miles of shoreline are privately owned. He estimated that 103.6 miles are suffering "critical" erosion problems, 684.2 miles "non-critical" erosion and 1,282.5 miles are stable.

The state and federal governments differ on the scope of erosion along the 107.6 miles of shoreline between Berrien and Ottawa counties. The federal report said 38.6 miles were classified as "critical" while the state contends that 65 miles face serious problems.

"The entire four-county shoreline is subject to significant erosion of varying degrees," the federal report concluded. "(Erosion) takes place along scattered areas, the longest being the entire Van Buren county shoreline."

The federal survey has placed a \$16.2 million price tag (\$400,000 per mile) for arresting shoreline erosion in Berrien, Van Buren, Allegan and Ottawa counties. The cost to protect the entire Lake Michigan shoreline has been placed at \$51 million.

The federal report recommends the construction of artificial beaches as the best

means of arresting erosion in the four-county area.

It concluded that beaches are energy dissipators meaning they cushion wave action against the shoreline. The erection of bulkheads, seawalls, revetments, groins and offshore breakwaters tend to impede the natural processes thus creating erosion problems in other areas according to the report.

"Many people are unknowingly damaging their neighbor's property by constructing breakwaters on their own land," said Marks. "There is need for a common protective works program."

Many of the questions addressed to the legislators focussed on the need for tax relief for shoreline property owners. Several property owners related stories of having property assessments increase while their land continues to shrink because of erosion.

Two township supervisors who attended the hearing, Richard Bus of South Haven and Jerry Sarno of Covert, said they were constantly reviewing shoreline property assessments.

Yankee War Prisoner Deal Brews

Nixon May Set Date For U.S. Pullout

WASHINGTON (AP) — There are strong indications the Nixon administration is preparing to offer the North Vietnamese a date for total withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam in exchange for the release of American prisoners of war.

The possibility of such a trade offer before the November presidential election has been mentioned often in recent weeks, but Sen. Edward W. Brooke, R-Mass., said Monday night he had heard the offer will come "very soon."

Brooke, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee,

told the Greater Boston Young Republicans Club he is so certain he could almost predict it.

And a high-level State Department source said Brooke "appears to be on sound ground," but he would not discuss it further.

A spokesman for the State Department specifically refused to knock down the Brooke report but would not confirm it either.

Ambassador William Porter, chief U.S. negotiator at the Paris peace talks, who flew home secretly last week, conferred Monday with Secretary of State William P. Rogers, but there was no official report of what was discussed.

Presidential press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler, however, told newsmen earlier in the day that Porter would not be taking any specific new proposals back to the negotiating table when he

returns to Paris later in the week.

"There is nothing new to offer on the Paris peace talks," Ziegler said. He repeated the U.S. position that this country always is willing to enter into negotiations but "the other side has shown unwillingness to do so."

President Nixon said in a television interview Jan. 2 that the North Vietnamese in Paris had said "no deal" to a with-

drawal-for-prisoners exchange offer. But no such proposal has ever been made at the Paris talks.

Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., and Rep. Robert L. Leggett, D-Calif., both have said their talks with North Vietnamese negotiators convinced them such a trade is possible.

The North Vietnamese, however, indicated following the Nixon television statement that they were not dropping their in-

sistence that the United States abandon the Saigon government as a part of any settlement.

McGovern has accused the President of delaying any serious attempt to end the war "until his re-election campaign."

"Mr. Nixon's priorities for this election year," McGovern said, "place the survival of Gen. Thieu's government ahead of the release of our prisoners." The U.S. guarantee of support

for the Saigon government, often stated by Nixon in the past, was not mentioned in the Jan. 2 interview.

Asked whether by next November "there will be no Americans, land sea or air—no residual force—fighting in support of Laotians, Cambodians or South Vietnamese," Nixon said:

"That depends on one circumstance ... the situation with regard to our POWs."

The White House said later, however, that the United States was not dropping its support of President Thieu of South Vietnam, but the spokesman stopped short of saying that support had to be in the form of a residual U.S. force in the Southeast Asian country.

Last November, Congress passed—and the President signed—a military procurement bill including a statement that it was U.S. policy to set a date for withdrawal of American forces from Indochina. Nixon, however, said he would not be bound by that provision of the law.

Jap Soldier In Hiding 28 Years

Fled Into Guam's Jungle With Nine Others In 1944

AGANA, Guam (AP) — A man who told officials he is a former Japanese army sergeant and has been hiding in the jungle since World War II says, "It all seems like a dream."

"I keep thinking I'll wake up soon," Shoichi Yokoi said as he met with newsmen after two fishermen spotted him and subdued him near his cave home on Monday.

Guam Gov. Carlos Camacho said first investigation showed no reason to disbelieve Yokoi's claim to be a Japanese army survivor, but Camacho said he knew of no way to establish the claim conclusively.

With Camacho standing at his side and honorary Japanese Consul James Hintaku serving as an interpreter, Yokoi described his life since Americans landed an invasion force in 1944.

He said he and nine other soldiers fled into the jungle in 1944 and the group gradually dwindled to two other men and himself. He said he had been alone since the two others died within a short time eight years ago.

The 5-foot-4 Yokoi said he is 58. Doctors said he weighed only 90 pounds and was anemic, but was otherwise in surprisingly good physical condition.

Yokoi said he was afraid to come out of hiding because he

didn't know what would happen to him. He said he subsisted on fish, coconuts and wild vegetation.

Camacho said he will return Yokoi to Japan as soon as possible.

In Japan, officials of Aichi prefecture reported that official notification of Yokoi's death was made to his father, Eihiro, on July 30, 1945, two weeks before Japan surrendered.

Eihiro died 23 years ago at the age of 68 and his mother, Tsuru, 14 years ago at 70. Shoichi had no brothers or sisters, but Osamu Yokoi, 42, who was adopted by Shoichi's mother 17 years ago, said she never believed the army's report of her son's death.

"If his mother had lived, she would be extremely happy," he added.

Bunzo Minagawa, 52, another Japanese veteran who was found on Guam 12 years ago, said he lived with Yokoi and eight others for about a month in the jungle 28 years ago but separated because of fear that a large group would be hard to hide.

"I can't believe he lived alone in the jungles," said Minagawa, who spent 16 years on the island in the company of another Japanese soldier, Tadashi Ho, 51.



MIDSHIPMAN? Sen. Jacob K. Javits, R-N.Y., introduces Barbara Jo Brimmer, left, at a Capitol press conference. Javits has nominated the 17-year-old girl from Staatsburg, N.Y., for appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis. (AP Wirephoto)

FTC Moves Against Cereal's 'Big Four'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Trade Commission has acted to break up the multimillion-dollar breakfast-food industry with a proposed complaint against the nation's four largest cereal manufacturers.

The commission said Kellogg Co., General Mills, Inc., General Foods Corp. and Quaker Oats Co. maintain a highly concentrated market through such practices as false advertising and price fixing.

They have "illegally monopolized" cereal promotion and production for the past 30 years, the FTC said Monday.

The proposed complaint said the four engage in "proliferation of brands and trademark

production; artificial differentiation of products; unfair methods of competition in advertising and product promotion; restrictive shelf-space control programs and acquisitions of competitors."

FTC Chairman Miles W. Kirkpatrick signed the complaint, along with commissioners Paul Rand Dixon and Mary Gardner Jones. Commissioners Everette MacIntyre and David S. Dennison Jr. dissented.

Kellogg replied that the FTC allegations were "based on theories that have never been tried or tested."

A spokesman said the commission "has said it is wrong to

be big, wrong to be efficient, and wrong to succeed."

A General Mills spokesman called the action "legally untenable."

"General Mills will resist today's action," the company said following Monday's FTC announcement.

General Foods said it "remained convinced that the cereal industry is extremely competitive and we should know, since we have to struggle every day to maintain our competitive position in the marketplace."

The four companies, the FTC said, control 91 per cent of the ready-to-eat-cereal market in the United States.

They would have 60 days to

respond to the proposed complaint under normal FTC practice, then it would become final. After that, the matter may be appealed to federal courts.

The commission proposal urged:

—Divestiture of assets, including plants and other facilities, for the formation of new corporate entities to engage in the manufacture, distribution and sale of ... cereals.

—"Prohibition of acquisition of stock or assets of firms engaged in the business of manufacturing or selling" cereals.

—Prohibition, also, of "any practices found to be anticompetitive."

5-10 Below Predicted For Tonight

Toss Another Log On The Fire!

Cold air being pumped down from Canada from behind a big cyclonic weather system that moved across upper Michigan overnight is expected to drive the mercury to 5 to 10 degrees below zero in southwestern Michigan tonight.

This area generally escaped predicted freezing rain and moderately heavy snow from the storm system that produced a gigantic blizzard across the Upper Peninsula.

However, strong blustery

winds raked this area overnight and this morning, and caused a threat of high water damage to two roads at the rim of the South Haven harbor.

High westerly winds, measured at up to 50 miles an hour by the South Haven coast guards, sent waves rolling into the mouth of the harbor there, causing a backup of the Black river flow. Two roads in the harbor area were threatened by the swollen river level.

South Haven city street

crews were working this morning to save North Shore drive and Water street from washouts. The same area suffered damage under similar weather conditions in November of 1970.

Three school systems in northern Van Buren county were closed today, because of difficult driving conditions.

Light snow fanned by the strong winds reduced driving visibility and spread a light coat of snow across the roads. School systems closed were South Haven, Covert and Bangor. The middle and elementary schools in Bloomingdale were closed, but the Bloomingdale high school was in session.

The same blustery winds buffeted all of southwestern Michigan overnight and early today, but the snow generally was too light to produce traffic difficulties.

Most schools from Grand Rapids northward to Ludington were closed today.

The UP took the brunt of a

fierce Arctic snowstorm that swept that area Monday. All schools in the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula were closed because of the storm, and ferries to Drummond and Sugar islands were suspended. Sault Ste. Marie reported a 10-inch snowfall overnight, bringing to 25 inches the amount of white stuff on the ground.

Zollar Vows To Continue Welfare Residency Battle

The U.S. Supreme court Monday upheld earlier lower court rulings that laws requiring a one-year waiting period for welfare assistance in New York and Connecticut are unconstitutional.

The high court acted without a hearing. This method automatically affirmed the judgments of two federal district courts that the residence rule violates the constitutional rights of the poor people.

Republican State Sen. Charles Zollar of Benton Harbor responded to Monday's event by saying he will investigate to determine whether a constitutional suit can be filed against Congress.

Zollar told this newspaper today that if he can spearhead such a suit, it would be based on the same equal rights amendment (the 14th) of the U.S. Constitution, only this time seeking to protect equal rights of taxpayers.

As for a suit against Congress, Zollar said his earlier resolution calling for equal federal distribution of welfare funds among all states probab-

ly would form a legal base. This resolution has been approved by the Michigan legislature.

For a starter, the senator who heads the Senate appropriations committee, said he will confer soon with deans of the state's law schools at the University of Michigan and Wayne State university. Zollar said from these men he hopes to get advice on guidelines for a suit, if one is possible. Zollar said he then will confer

with national constitutional law experts.

Commenting on Monday's Supreme Court action, Zollar noted that the court acted by inaction — by not holding a hearing or rehearing, therefore allowing lower court rulings to remain in effect. "My hope would be that they (the court) would reconsider the matter," said Zollar.

Referring to the equal rights amendment as affecting the poor, Zollar said that the federal government pays only 50 per cent toward welfare outlays in Michigan, compared to 70 per cent paid to Arkansas and 90 per cent to Mississippi. He also said that a family of four can receive \$240 a month in welfare payments in Michigan, compared to only \$60 in Mississippi.

"Michigan, with an already high unemployment rate, has become home base for an influx of poor from other states," Zollar said. He added that these poor cannot find jobs or work, or they would not be on welfare at home in

the first place. "Because they can move about freely to collect higher welfare rates, there is a need to provide Michigan taxpayers the same protection under the 14th amendment," Zollar concluded.

New York and Connecticut set one-year residency laws for welfare recipients, claiming that the states faced financial crises. When lower courts struck down the laws of these states as unconstitutional, both appealed the decisions to the U.S. Supreme court. Connecticut officials were reported to say they might be forced to cut welfare payments across the board.

Action by the high court indicated to newsmen in Washington that despite the addition of four Nixon nominees, the court is not going to alter its position.

\$8 Days. Style Shoppe. Adv.

Final reductions - many items 1/2 price. The Red Balloon. Adv.



SURRENDERS AT LAST: Shoichi Yokoi, right, a former Japanese army sergeant who has been hiding in the jungle since World War II, gets his first look at a television camera, held by Bill Gibson, during a news conference in Agana, Guam, Monday. Pointing to the camera, center, is James Shintaku, honorary Japanese consul on Guam. Yokoi said he fled into the jungle on Guam in 1944 as he fled from American invasion forces. (AP Wirephoto via cable from Tokyo)

THE HERALD-PRESS

Editorial Page

W. J. Banyon, Editor and Publisher
Bert Lindenfeld, Managing Editor

Remapping The County Board

A five-member apportionment commission has a March 6th deadline in which to determine the size of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners and the areas, from which those representatives are to be elected.

The commission has scheduled three hearing dates, each starting at 7:30 p.m., at which the public is welcome to offer suggestions.

The first of those meetings is a week from today at the New Buffalo township hall. The next is February 3rd at the Niles city hall. The third comes on February 8th at the Benton township hall.

Members of the commission, designated by state law, are the prosecuting attorney, the county clerk, the county treasurer, and the chairman of the county Democratic and Republican committees.

The commission is acting under a legislative directive which reinforces recent state and federal court opinions holding that elective offices must be selected under the one man-one vote doctrine.

This re-apportionment must be conducted as U. S. Census taking is conducted periodically.

The Michigan legislature a few years ago declared the new style county boards may consist of from five to 21 members.

Berrien county adopted the maximum under this local option provision. The current question is whether this allowable maximum should be retained or dropped to a lesser amount.

The 1970 Census, one still being debated as to how many of Uncle Sam's nephews and nieces went uncounted throughout the country, specially in the urban areas, puts Berrien's population at not quite 163,950

Role Played By Comets

Comets, according to one theory, are hunks of ice which have gathered pieces of debris from the universe. Their wide ranging orbits take them around the sun and to the farthest outposts of the solar system.

This makes them ideal natural spies for scientists filling in theories about the origin of the solar system, the composition of the planets and the order of the universe in general.

Trouble is, science has not learned to interpret the signals given off by comets in their travels. Scientists still seek important clues to their composition, which they need if they are to understand the reactions of comets to other planets.

Even at this stage of scientific progress, the scientist with a well developed curiosity and average amount of ingenuity doesn't need much else to enable him to peer into the universe and gain an insight no one had before.

Controlling The Magic Box

The world is becoming increasingly computerized. It is much more convenient for the government if people allow themselves to become numbers and their personal particulars mere holes punched in cards.

There is a sense of wonder at what computers can do. To be able to press a few buttons and produce, say, the number of people aged 33 with fair hair and blue eyes who like asparagus is no mean achievement, and one at which those who do not understand the mysteries can be forgiven for marveling.

Yet it is disturbing to think that these electronic wonders of which homo sapiens are so justifiably proud are, in reducing him to numerals, ignoring the human personality which insists on its uniqueness.

It is impossible to turn back the clock, so the individual can protect himself only if he demands that the computer remain a servant, faithful and obedient. "Man must be master of the machine," said Sir Robert Watson-Watt, the discoverer of radar, "not the machine master of man."

The problem of the future is how to retain the mastery. Mankind will tolerate for only a short time the indignity of being reduced to a cipher. In the past his reaction of revulsion has often taken the form of anarchy. The machine has an endless appetite. It grows with what it feeds on.

A computer may come up with a result which would baffle the brain of man to produce, but it can never provide the magic of creativity, the judgment based on wisdom and individual experience. These are the true essence of the human spirit.

If they can be preserved and defended against the encroachment of "magic boxes," then man has nothing to fear.

persons.

If the County Board's membership is retained at 21 members, each Commissioner theoretically would be elected by and speak for just over 7,800 people. If the membership is reduced to the minimum of five, the ratio becomes 1 to almost 32,800. The ratio on an in-between figure of 14 Commissioners, a number being mildly gossiped about in the court house, is 1 to slightly more than 11,700.

Drawing comparisons in the numbers game can take the reader in any direction he wishes.

On a head count, one U. S. Representative is the voice for about half a million people back home; Charlie Zollar, our State Senator, speaks for over 200,000 people; Harry Gast, Jr., and Ray Mittan, our State Representatives, are the voices for 80,000 apiece; our five city commissioners in St. Joseph and the seven members on the St. Joseph school board are elected at large, but, per grade school arithmetic, they stand respectively for ratios of 1 to 2,400 and 1 to 3,500.

Since Berrien's population divided by the County Board's constituency falls between these extremes, one way of looking at the reapportionment is to say it makes no difference if the 21 maximum is kept or some lesser number is adopted.

Our feeling is to stick with the 21 maximum.

The apportionment commission must establish contiguous districts which, in turn, means squaring off each district as best it can and, if at all possible, not city, township and precinct lines.

The commission seemingly has a five per cent population variance to work with, that is, the courts have indicated that this much deviation from one elective area to another satisfies the spirit in one man-one vote.

Ordinarily, the larger the number of districts the easier it is to meet that qualification.

Consequently, it would seem the chance for least disturbing the present quite workable division of the County Board should be better with a 21 divider than a smaller one.

Another advantage to the larger number is in giving more areas within the county a voice in court house affairs. The smaller this representation goes, the less the opportunity for the many communities to make their problems known.

There was a time when the County Board was nothing more than a cauldron of city and township lobbies.

If nothing else, the one man-one vote rule silenced that babble. It has upgraded county government and given it a needed wider base on which to strengthen local government in general.

Yet the separate communities have their own questions which deserve the right answers, and by drastically reducing the Board's membership, the opportunity grows for failing in that requirement.



GLANCING BACKWARDS

MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY WILL BOUNCE BACK

1 Year Ago

While Michigan suffers more than the rest of the country during economic hard times, it should bounce back better, says a University of Michigan professor of finance.

If the nation's economy expands 7 per cent this year, Michigan's industrial output should gain by 10 to 14 per cent, says Thomas G. Gies.

MULTI-STAGE ROCKET FAILS

10 Years Ago

Rocket failure today ruined an attempt to boost five satellites into orbit simultaneously to probe a number of space mysteries.

The space quintuplets hurtled into the sky at 4:30 a.m. cradled snugly in the nose of an 80-foot Thor-Able-Star rocket. The first stage of the 55-ton rocket performed normally and observers at the Cape saw the second stage ignite. But 20 minutes after launch the Defense Department announced the upper stage failed to build up sufficient thrust after ignition and the entire rocket assembly plunged in the Atlantic Ocean far downrange.

GAIN VICTORIES ON SEA AND LAND

30 Years Ago

Fresh Japanese troops supported by guns of warships have wrested a number of positions on the west coast of the Bataan peninsula in the Philippines from the American-Filipino defenders.

A war department communique reporting this today, said that the foe was expelled

from some points by fierce counter attacks, but other points remained in the enemy's possession.

TO BE SPEAKER

40 Years Ago

The Rev. Louis Neuchterlein of Trinity Lutheran church was accorded a new honor when he was invited to be toastmaster at the general church convention next June. The national affair is to be held this year in Milwaukee.

AUTO SHOW

50 Years Ago

Oscar Anderson, Henry Burkhard, Earl Jennings and

W. T. Mullen are in Chicago for the automobile show.

RETURNS FROM TRIP

60 Years Ago

Henry C. Gersonde of Fette and Gersonde store has returned from a two weeks' business trip to Hendersonville, N. C.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS

80 Years Ago

President W. W. Bean was in Chicago making final arrangements for the material and equipment for the electric railway and soon will have the work of the construction under way.

EDITOR'S MAILBAG

Editor, The Herald-Press.

SAYS TAXPAYERS WERE MISLED

When Michigan taxpayers voted in 1968 a \$100 million Bond issue for parks and recreation, little did they know the form in which allocated portions would be returned to the counties. The Berrien County Parks and Recreation committee, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Bun Baldwin, seems ready to accept Berrien's \$500,000 share, request a matching \$500,000 from HUD and follow explicit directions from the Department of Natural Resources as to its use, and with all the strings attached. At a meeting January 20th, Mr. Baldwin claimed a Mr. Joseph Seevey from the DNR approached his committee last fall to encourage the application for the \$500,000 to use in a new indoor recreation center to be located at Lake Michigan College. The \$500,000 and matching HUD funds would permit \$900,000 for construction of a building and \$100,000 for equipment. The County presently owns the 11.7 acres of land. LMC has promised para-professional training for recreational directors and use of its established facilities, a drive is underway for donated architectural expertise, and Model Cities is cooperative with promised expanded use of its two minibuses to provide transportation to and from the site.

It was freely admitted the primary drive for the Center is to provide indoor recreation year round for the underprivileged, poor, young and retired people in the Benton Harbor - Benton Township area. Though committeeman Mr. Harry Nye suggested the Center would provide a coordinating agency for indoor recreation for the entire County, the major emphasis would be year round indoor recreation for the Benton Harbor inner city residents. The County plan calls for a 1/2 mill vote to pay recreational directors' salaries and upkeep of the building; maintenance of the grounds will be provided by LMC. The package will cost the taxpayers of the County \$373,000 per year, a goodly sum for the total County population of 164,000.

The plan provides four major areas of activities, all

activities totaling 131 beginning with Basketball and ending with Scavenger Hunts.

There are many questions to be answered, namely, 1) Do Berrien County residents wish to use their recreation allocation on an indoor facility? 2) Do taxpayers feel LMC is the best location for the entire County? 3) Are taxpayers willing to pay \$373,000 per year for activities already offered in community education centers? 4) Would the taxpayers in the mid, southern, and eastern sections of Berrien be willing to travel to LMC to take advantage of proposed activities? 5) Would taxpayers support an alternative plan such as outdoor parks and park land acquisition? 6) Are Berrien County taxpayers willing to accept the dictates of the State of Michigan concerning what we need, where it will be located and who will use it.

The 1/2 mill proposal is expected to be presented on the November 2, 1972 ballot.

Truly,
DONNA ASSELIN
United For Survival

Bruce Blossat

Enemy Preparing TV Spectacular

WASHINGTON (NEA) — U.S. defense officials are apprehensive that the North Vietnamese armies operating in South Vietnam are soon to record the best American television spectacular they've had since their winter offensive of 1969.

Most of the informed speculation thus far has centered on Hanoi's buildup of men and materiel in and near what is called Military Region Two — a very lightly populated central highlands area with such interior cities as Kontum and Pleiku.

Though judgments here are that the South Vietnamese ground and air forces, aided some by U.S. air, have the strength ultimately to turn back the assaults, there is concern that the Reds may slash into eastern coastal cities before being repulsed.

Possible targets on the South China seacoast are Nha Trang, Qui Nhon, and the Cam Ranh bay area, to name a few.

If the attackers get to Cam Ranh, they will, of course, encounter some of the U.S. units still stationed there in defense of a major U.S. logistical base. Some Korean forces also are employed in the central coastal zone.

The view at Defense is that the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong need enter one or more coastal towns only

briefly to score heavily on American television. Our officials think they will be thrown out and that the whole highland offensive will cost the enemy enormously in lives — but that Hanoi will measure the gain in prime time on the American tube and consequent impact on U.S. opinion.

That is not the only worry in military circles. They look for Hanoi to stir things up all over the place, in the populous, rich southern delta, in the vulnerable border territory around Tay Ninh, in and around Saigon itself, and Military Region One up north close to the Demilitarized Zone.

The purpose, it is felt, will not necessarily be to win anything big this winter, but to suggest to war-weary Americans that South Vietnam is hopelessly vulnerable and we just ought to get everybody out quick and forget it.

There seems to be reasonable confidence here that Saigon and the delta region can be protected, even if some inroads are made.

The outlook at the critical DMZ is mixed. The feeling is that North Vietnamese attacks there would be, at first anyway, largely a diversion intended to pin down some veteran South Vietnamese divisions so they could not move to the defense of Region Two to the south.

Jeffrey Hart

Strategy Of Renrise: 1972

In the Vietnamese War, the Communists have repeatedly employed the classic strategy of reprise — the virtually textbook repetition of a previously successful move. For example, their employment of the U. S. prisoners of war as a psychological-political weapon exactly parallels their use of the French prisoners taken at Dien Bien Phu.

The strategy of reprise rests on a sound assumption: If something succeeds once, it must have some merit, and is very likely to succeed again.

But the strategy of reprise does possess the disadvantage of permitting the alert antagonist to anticipate and therefore prepare for one's moves. Thus, on January 30, 1968, with the New Hampshire Presidential primary imminent, the Communists launched their famous Tet offensive. Four years later there is every sign that they are preparing another such spectacular.

And again, as in 1968, there is next to no chance that the Communists can accomplish anything of military signifi-

cance. Just as in 1968, the real goal will be political — the effect of the attack upon U. S. public opinion and on the newly convened Congress.

In a very real sense the significant battles will be fought not on the ground in Vietnam, but on the TV screen in the American living rooms.

In his suburb study of the 1968 Tet offensive which was published last year, Washington Post correspondent Don Oberdorfer demonstrates how the public received an entirely distorted impression of the Tet offensive via the TV screen. At the very moment the Communists were undergoing a startling blood-bath in the real world, and in fact were suffering a shattering defeat, the electronic images powerfully suggested that they were scoring important victories.

The first films to reach a U. S. audience showed the attack on the U. S. embassy in Saigon. It first was shown on the Huntley-Brinkley evening news. Later the same night it was replayed on a 30-minute NBC Television News special, "Vietcong Terror: A Guerrilla Offensive," and on a 30-minute CBS special report, "Saigon Under Fire."

Focusing on the embassy fighting, the film gave the impression of an entire city under siege. Actually, the action was limited and insignificant; life in the city went on as usual; and all the Communists were slaughtered.

Later films gave a similarly misleading impression of the action elsewhere, and a sense of shock swept the U. S. At the same time, however, cables from the scene were providing officials in Washington with an entirely different impression of events, and this second impression turned out to be factually correct. The Tet offensive, falling everywhere, was an unimaginable military disaster. The Communists were losing some 60,000 men, carefully husbanded at that time. The U. S. casualties were some 3,000 and total allied casualties were less than 10,000. Yet accurate reports could not counteract the initial impression produced by the TV films. As Oberdorfer says, "The Vietcong were being decisively beaten in the Saigon cables, but they were scoring great feats on television and in the press."

BERRY'S WORLD



"He says he can't decide which he'd rather be when he grows up—a poet or president of the United States—so he's writing Eugene McCarthy!"

North Shore Decision Months Away

BHEA Attorney Opposes Transfer

By ALAN AREND
Staff Writer

LANSING — Two contesting parties arrived at a State Department of Education hearing Monday without attorneys, but legal counsel showed up for an intervening third party.

Atty. James White of Lansing, representing Benton Harbor Education association, was allowed to question witnesses at the hearing in which the Benton Harbor district

opposed transfer of West North Shore - Lafayette to St. Joseph.

White's participation drew an objection from a spokesman for West North Shore-Lafayette residents, but Benton Harbor Supt. Raymond Sreboth did not oppose his presence.

Atty. White said transfers will not solve problems, but will lead to further problems and if anyone should be transferred, it should be the

inner-city children so a racial balance can be achieved.

The Benton Harbor Education association is bargaining agent for the district's 540 teachers.

Raymond Godmer, State Department of Education hearing officer, heard testimony for 6½ hours, then indicated a decision by the State Board of Education may be months away.

Final transcripts of yesterday's hearing must be prepared and sent to all parties involved. This could take up to two months and then all parties have 20 days in which to file objections to the report, before it is even eligible for State Board action.

The hearing on West Fairplain's transfer appeal ended Aug. 30, 1971 and still has not come before the State board. Godmer indicated that West Fairplain might come before the State Board in February. Sodus township petitioners are

also waiting in the wings for the State board to rule on their transfer appeal.

Testimony presented yesterday in the main auditorium of the Seven Story Office building, behind the State Capital, was nearly identical to that given before the Berrien Intermediate Board last May with a few exceptions.

West North Shore-Lafayette petitioners told the State hearing panel that the North Shore elementary school building

could stay in the Benton Harbor district even if the transfer was granted, if St. Joseph didn't want it.

Neither of the major parties concerned, the Benton Harbor Area school district and the West North Shore-Lafayette petitioners were represented by counsel at yesterday's hearing.

Allowing Atty. White to take part in the hearing drew strong objection from P.W. McDonald, a resident who

headed the west North Shore-Lafayette contingent.

Testifying on behalf of the petitioners besides McDonald, were: Richard E. Koch, resident; Sherrill E. Hudson, Benton Harbor realtor; Elmer P. Archer, resident; Mrs. Charles Duncan, resident; and Mrs. William Lacy, resident. Testifying on behalf of the Benton Harbor Area Schools besides Sreboth were: Thomas

(See Page 11 Col. 1)

BH Board Takes Issue With Teacher's Charges

The board of education of Benton Harbor Area schools has taken issue with the statement Saturday by the Benton Harbor Education association in which the BHEA charges that the Board has

rejected the fact finders report issued by fact-finder George T. Roumell, Jr.

Board President, Oliver Rector, said today that the board, in fact, has accepted the fact-finders report with some modifications dictated by financial necessity.

The BHEA Saturday called for resignations of all board members because of alleged failure to adopt the fact-finder's report.

Rector said the following statement was issued on behalf of the board:

"1. The board believes it has negotiated in good faith with representatives of the teachers, commencing in mid-March, 1971,

"2. The board is agreeable to the acceptance of the fact-finders report, subject to securing the millage needed to provide the revenue required to finance the salary schedule recommended by the fact-finder for the 1972-1973 school year. (The fact-finders report calls for a starting base salary for 1972-1973 of \$7975.00). In his report, the fact-finder said, 'one of the problems in arriving at a salary schedule in Benton Harbor is the insistence of the teachers in adhering to what has become a very advantageous index system, namely, the present 6 per cent index, (annual raises based on experience). The teachers have insisted on this

and by doing so cannot necessarily compare themselves with other school districts who do not have the advantage of such an attractive index system which affects teachers at all steps."

"3. The board has agreed to a base salary of \$7850.00 and full family health insurance with no options for the current year 1971-1972 with a maxi-

(See Page 11 Col. 2)

Leo Rutz Named A Director



LEO C. RUTZ

Leo C. Rutz of Watervliet recently was elected a director of Peoples Savings Association for a two-year term.

Rutz, a lifelong resident of Berrien county, has been in the insurance business since 1936, and is presently president of the Rutz - Smith Agency of St. Joseph.

He has also served on the Berrien county Planning Commission for several years.

Directors re-elected to three year terms at the annual meeting included Merle P. Durren, Frederick H. Rahn and Millard Dean.

Association president Robert H. Durren reported that the mortgage loan department made over \$10 million in loans, the savings department had a growth of over \$5 million and dividends paid for the year totaled \$2,883,700.00.

Army Experiment A Headache For SJ Commission

The Army Corps of Engineers has given St. Joseph city commissioners a couple of minor headaches in the form of gates at the water line on the north and south piers.

The Corps wants the city of

St. Joseph to assume the responsibility of opening and closing the gates during the inclement weather in the spring, summer and fall months. The gates are removed by the Corps during the winter months.

Headache No. 1, as explained by City Manager Leland Hill, is finding personnel among city employees with time to take over this job. Even the Coast Guard has refused, said Hill.

Headache No. 2 came to light last night at the city commission meeting when the city's liability in case of accident was questioned.

It was pointed out by Mayor W. H. "Duke" Ehrenberg that while the piers are government property, he felt that the city was leaving itself open for damage suits in case of accidents.

City Atty. A. J. Preston was instructed to write the Corps district headquarters in Detroit and get a clarification on the position of the city of St. Joseph in the case of accident.

There are no guidelines for action due to the fact that St. Joseph is the only city in the country where the Corps has installed gates on piers.

"It's an experiment by the Corps," explained Hill. "No other city has gates and the Corps just left them open last summer."

Hill told the commissioners that the city has collected "over \$700" so far this season at the Whitley avenue skating rink.

Monthly departmental reports submitted to the commission showed that the police department, in the month of December, made 64 criminal arrests, 139 traffic arrests, investigated 69 automobile accidents, issued 625 two hour parking tickets and 465 tickets for "other" parking violations,

Lakeshore High Library Named For R.J. Johnson

The newly remodeled library at Lakeshore high school will be named the R. James



R. JAMES JOHNSON
Memorialized

LMC Ski Club Slates Style Show

Fashion conscious skiers can attend a Winter Wonderland style show at the Lake Michigan college student center on Wednesday during the noon hour.

The show, sponsored by the LMC ski club, will spotlight fashions for men and women in the latest ski apparel. The apparel will be furnished by Gardner's favorite sports of Benton Harbor, the style show is free, and open to the public. Lunch will be available in the LMC cafeteria during the show.

Will Initiate Two Members

St. Joseph Elks No. 541 will initiate Richard Shafer and Barry J. Davis at ceremonies Thursday in the lodge, Exalted Ruler Farrell Bender announced today.

Two men, Harry Peterson and Clinton Emmert, are transferring into the St. Joseph lodge. Sponsors for the two new members are Warren Shafer and Lester Tiscornia.

Johnson Memorial library in honor of the late member of the Lakeshore school board.

The tribute was authorized by the school board during a meeting yesterday in advance of the Feb. 13 open house and reception during which the formal dedication in honor of Mr. Johnson will be made.

Expansion and improvement of the high school library were part of a \$2.9 million building program now virtually complete at the high school and four elementary schools. On Feb. 13 the public is invited to review improvements to the high school, including a new auditorium and classroom wing.

Mr. Johnson served as the vice president of the school board. He had been elected to his second term on the board just before his death last June 27. He was a member of the Benton Harbor accounting firm of Herkner, Smiths, Miskill and Johnson.

In other business yesterday, the board filled two teaching vacancies by approving contracts for Mrs. Carol Wroblewski, and Mrs. Toni Blenderman, both English teachers.

Mrs. Blenderman replaces Mrs. Anita Rutland, now on a leave of absence, and Mrs. Wroblewski returns to the high school to take over part-time teaching load of Mrs. Jeanne Baker, who moved from the state.

Jaycees Looking For New Members

The Twin Cities Area Jaycees, inactive for three years until recently, will hold a membership meeting open to all interested young men. The session will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Memorial hall, 415 Lake boulevard, St. Joseph.

Richard Fairchild, membership chairman, said the organization has acquired 20 members in the last three months and elected officers, as result of an effort to make it an active group again.

The meeting Thursday is open to all young men between 18 and 35 years of age who would like to get involved in civic and youth activities, Fairchild stated.

He said that persons at the meeting will have the opportunity to discuss with the Jaycees the present and future plans of the organization.

The officers of the Jaycees are: Donald Lang, president; Al Vingelen, treasurer, Mike Slmeck, vice-president; and Glenn Nienhuis, secretary.



KILOGRAM CAKE: Mrs. Robert Moffatt, wife of a professional engineer, checks recipe of "Kilogram (pound) Cake" with Irvin W. Lloyd, (left), Chicago, a U. S. Department of Commerce international trade specialist who spoke on metrication last night to the Twin City chapter of professional engineers. At right is Ed Eaman, program chairman. (Staff photo)

Predicts Change To Metric System

The metric system is coming and the big question is whether the conversion in the United States will be by drift or design.

Irvin W. Lloyd, of Chicago, an international trade specialist with the U. S. Department of Commerce, told members of the Benton Harbor-St. Joseph chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers last night at Ramada

Inn of the need for orderly transition to the measuring system the rest of the world uses.

Lloyd was speaking for Gerald M. Marks, director of the department's Chicago office who was prevented from coming by illness. Marks, a professional engineer, however sent an appeal to the engineers here that the profession should take a leading role in

explaining the advantage of the metric system over the present inch-pound standards.

Several centuries ago an Anglo-Saxon king, Edward, stretched out his arm and ordered that the span from the tip of his nose to the end of his finger be notched on a stick, Lloyd said. He decreed this is a yard. Eight centuries

(See Page 11 Col. 8)

SJ 'Dollar Days' To Add Funds To Vienna Kitty

St. Joseph merchants will make their popular "dollar days" a convenient opportunity for shoppers to help the St. Joseph high school band go to Vienna to compete in an international music festival.

The annual winter "dollar days" will be Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 26 to 29.

The St. Joseph Retail Merchants association has proposed the "On to Vienna Dollar Days" be a two-part plan to help the band. Merchants have voted to set aside a percentage of their sales or make a specific gift to the band, according to Fred Thomas, chairman of "On to Vienna Dollar Days." Canisters will be set up in all participating stores and customers will be requested to drop in change they receive after making purchases.

The St. Joseph bandmen turned out a quantity of the canisters. On Saturday they will post a uniformed bandmen at each canister as a reminder of the Vienna trip and to personally thank donors.

The band has been invited to participate in the International Festival of Musical Youth in Vienna, Austria, July 11-15. A budget of \$70,000 has been set to finance the trip. Bandmen will raise a good share of the expenses themselves. Chaparones will pay their own expenses.

The band has been busy raising funds in a variety of ways and has been receiving assistance from many sources.

When the Farmers and Merchants National bank opened a branch bank at Hilltop road and Washington avenue a \$1,000 gift was given to the Vienna fund.

Recently Robert Sheeley of Burger Chef, 2901 Niles avenue, St. Joseph, launched a plan to redeem coupons costing \$1 with \$1.50 worth of sandwiches, the money to go to the band. The tickets are being sold by Milton Junior High school bandmen.

Dennis Ottavi of Dunkin' Donuts, Niles avenue at Highland, St. Joseph announced a plan to donate 25 cents for each dozen doughnuts sold between 6 and 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. At the same time bandmen set up a free delivery service for orders of two or more dozen doughnuts.

Fred Thomas of the Peoples State bank, is chairman of the "On to Vienna Dollar Days" assisted by Dwight Edmunds, Mrs. Eunice Hughes and Phil Medo.

Bands from 50 nations will

BH Mother's March Gets Good Results

A traditional annual "Mother's March" of door-to-door solicitation Sunday in Benton Harbor for March of Dimes contributions produced at least \$765.18.

George Westfield, Benton Harbor MOD drive chairman, said preliminary returns from 107 mothers and volunteers coordinated by Mrs. Helen Ford showed the equivalent of 7,651.8 dimes contributed.

Westfield said he and Mrs. Ford were "delightfully pleased." Other area communities will hold similar marches this coming weekend.

Mother's marches are being held for the 31st year in Berrien county. Funds go for nursing scholarships, a birth defect center in Ann Arbor, prenatal education classes in Benton Harbor, medical services to victims of polio and birth defects in Berrien county, and research on birth defects.

Prosecutor Sees Better Results In '72

Welfare Fraud Unit Called Success



RONALD J. TAYLOR
Berrien Prosecutor

By BRANDON BROWN
Staff Writer

Berrien Prosecutor Ronald J. Taylor today termed his welfare support and fraud unit's activities for 1971 an "unprecedented success" and hinted even better results for 1972.

In a year-end report for 1971 released today, Taylor listed the welfare support and fraud unit's accomplishments during its first full year as:

—Obtaining court judgments for child support valued, at a 100-per cent collection rate, at \$380,000 a year.

—Screening 114 possible welfare fraud cases, resulting in 53 warrants for arrest and 24 cases in court to date with only two acquittals.

—And doing it at a cost of

\$28,290, or a net return of \$5.69 in collections for every Federal-State dollar spent on the program.

For 1972, the welfare support and fraud unit will be bolstered by adding a half-time attorney to the one fulltimer now on duty and by moving the entire unit from the prosecutor's office in the courthouse, St. Joseph, to the Berrien Social Services department office in Benton township, Taylor's report said.

These changes are expected to produce additional team services in 1972, including efforts to investigate and prosecute child neglect in welfare families, aiding the Berrien social services and health departments with housing problems and "general

legal consultation within the Department of Social Services itself."

The welfare support and fraud unit — now comprised of fulltime Atty. Jack Struwin, part-time Atty. Edward Skinner, Investigator John Gillespie, and a paternity clerk-secretary — moved to the Berrien Social Services office as of Jan. 19.

In child support cases for 1971, the special unit interviewed 1,170 clients and initiated 420 family support and paternity suits in Berrien circuit court plus a corresponding 100 suits in courts outside Michigan. Further, several hundred cases were referred to the Berrien friend of the court's office for processing in or out of court to

obtain child support payments.

As a result of team action, at the end of 1971 judgments were on the Berrien county court books that would produce \$380,000 annually, Taylor's report said.

"While it is unrealistic to anticipate that 100 per cent of these judgments will be collected," it added, "we believe the first year's operations demonstrate that great progress is being made toward that goal."

While some but not all of these judgments were in force in 1971, child support collections returned to the Department of Social Services by fathers helping to support Aid to Dependent Children recipients rose 99 per cent while the caseload rose only 15 per cent

compared to 1970, Taylor's report said.

"In 1970 the total child support collections were \$185,556 on an ADC caseload of 2,748 (families). In 1971 the caseload increased by 15 per cent to 3,160 families. Assuming that this caseload would have resulted in 15 per cent more collections under normal circumstances, we can project that collections during 1971 without (the prosecutor's) support unit would have amounted to approximately \$213,000.

"Therefore it is apparent that additional collections directly due to the efforts of the support unit approximate \$156,355."

In addition, the report said, the special unit in 1971 produced \$4,642 in restitution for

fraudulently-obtained welfare, bringing the special unit's total worth to approximately \$161,000.

"It should be noted that the actual expenditures in the program during 1971 were \$28,290 (in state-federal funds, plus local goods and services). Therefore, for every dollar spent on the program . . . the net return was \$5.69."

The report said of some 400 cases reviewed by the Berrien Social Services Department for possible fraud, 114 were referred to the prosecutor's special unit. Of these, 61 were referred back to social services with a recommendation to seek restitution and have produced \$4,642.35, with more coming.

Of the balance, 53 have resulted in warrants — with 24 persons in court and only two acquittals to date — while six await trial, 13 warrants remain outstanding for inability to serve the defendants, and 10 have been disposed of through agreements for restitution or other arrangements.

Taylor's report commends Berrien Social Services Director Wesley P. Bowerman and his staff, with whom the prosecutor's staff works closely, and the welfare support and fraud unit's chief in 1971, Assistant Prosecutor Ronald R. Moses. He now works fulltime on criminal matters.

ELEPHANT RAMPAGES
KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Ole Diamond, the Knoxville Municipal Zoo's elephant, went on a rampage and ripped out plumbing fixtures and heating pipes from his quarters.

TRUSTEES FIND FUNDS FOR SHELL OF BUILDING

LMC's Phase III Gets Green Light

By JERRY KRIEGER
County-Farm Editor

Denied state approval recently to issue \$2.5 million in bonds to finance Phase III construction, Lake Michigan college trustees reached into other pockets last night and pulled together nearly \$1.5 million from various sources and gave a go-ahead to build final technologies wing in shell form.

Starting with \$520,188 on hand from a Phase II bond

issue, the board and administration added an already approved state grant of \$350,000 and a federal grant of \$105,000 to muster \$975,000 toward an expected cost of \$1,700,000 for the "shell" structure. And shortly before last night's meeting, President James Lehman received word from Sen. Charles Zollar that the governor's 1972-73 budget proposal has another \$300,000 in it for the wing.

While some \$200,000 was still

unaccounted for, the board instructed the administration to proceed at once to advertise for bids. In addition to the brick and concrete exterior shell of the technologies wing, the project will include "stubbying in" the plumbing, electrical and ventilating runs.

Board members noted the state's 1971-72 grant of \$350,000 for Phase III will expire June 30 if not committed by then, and the \$105,000 federal grant will be withdrawn unless con-

struction is under way by Sept. 1 of this year. They also noted the college must turn back the Upton Tech center on the old Britain avenue campus to the Benton Harbor Area schools no later than June 30, 1973.

President Lehman suggested optimistically that the first and possibly third floors of the three-story wing would also be completed on the inside by securing some additional government grants. He said the college already has spent a total of \$192,913 in Phase III foundations and architect's fees, and that this amount perhaps can be used as local matching shares for such added grants.

The LMC president also reported Sen. Zollar said enough surplus government equipment should be available to equip a very complete technologies center at virtually no cost except transportation charges.

If all goes well, construction on the shell building could get started by March 1, according to Lehman, who added it would take an estimated 16 to 18 months to complete the work.

Trustee Robert Small observed that an increased district tax base may give the college some money from the existing one-mill tax levy to devote to completing the building eventually. Another board member, Dr. B. C. Radde, said the board has discussed asking the voters for some additional millage, but added that such a course does not have active consideration at this time.

Robert VanArkel, acting director of buildings and grounds for the college, has been appointed permanent director of the department, it was announced last night. VanArkel, who resides at 387 East Glenford road, Royalton township, will supervise maintenance, custodial services, grounds work, college security, shipping and receiving, transportation, and handle other duties.

Trustees last night approved giving transfer credit to students who come to LMC after completing U.S. Armed Forces Institute courses, and to students who score high in the College Level Examination Program. Lehman said exceptionally bright high school graduates could earn up to a maximum of 30 credit hours by taking the College Level Examination tests.

In other actions last night, the trustees:

1. Approved payment of a \$17,459 balance to the Berrien county road commission on its share of the cost of paving Yore avenue along the east

side of the campus between Empire and Napier avenues. The college had paid \$10,000 earlier.

2. Approved a new schedule of rental fees for the use of college rooms. Generally fees were unchanged, and the charge for the student union and the gymnasium to commercial groups will be reduced, from \$150 to \$120.

3. Heard Ben Standen, assistant dean of technologies, outline four proposed new

technologies courses, to be started after the technologies wing is completed. The courses are Appliance Service Program, Management Techniques, Plastics Technician, and Die Casting Technician.

4. Appointed William Niemi, vice president for business affairs, and Walter Browe, executive vice president, to the board's bargaining team for contract negotiations with the faculty and other bargaining units.

5. Approved dropping a mandatory requirement that entering students must have taken the American College Test. A motion to drop a physical examination as an entrance requirement was tabled for further study.

6. Applauded the success of the LMC basketball team in the school's first year of return to intercollegiate athletic competition, and urged greater support by students and others.



EROSION WOES: State and federal officials learned of shoreline erosion troubles in the Berrien, Van Buren, Allegan and Ottawa county area during a public hearing in South Haven Monday. Other

officials in attendance included Col. Myron Snoko of the Corps of Army Engineers, speaking to several residents after formal session ended. (Tom Renner photo)

Property Owners Offered Little Aid Against Erosion

By TOM RENNER
South Haven Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN — Owners of Lake Michigan shoreline property were offered little assurance that either state or federal government help is on the way to stop erosion that is eating away at more than one-third of the shoreline between Berrien and Ottawa counties.

More than 100 persons attended a public hearing here Monday to hear presentations from state and federal officials as well as to present their story to a group of legislators.

The hearing was the first of four to be held across the state this week by the Michigan Water Resources commission.

Legislators in attendance included State Sen. Gary Byker of Hudsonville, and State Rep. Bela Kennedy of Bangor, Harry Gast of Stevensville, Melvin De Stigter of Hudsonville and James Farnsworth of Plainwell.

At the same time, the spokesmen said that neither the state or federal governments have funds available for erosion problems confronting private property owners. Federal participation is available on a limited basis if the elimination of erosion on private property is deemed a public necessity.

Bill Marks a staff member for the commission (WRC), urged citizens to contact their elected state and national officials to encourage assistance programs for the private property owner.

"We feel that the shoreline erosion situation is a long-term, persistent problem which needs long term solutions," said Marks.

"Legislation should be extended to protect private as well as public property along the Great Lakes," he added.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently concluded a shore erosion appraisal throughout the nation including all of the Great Lakes according to Col. Myron Snoko, Detroit district engineer for the Corps of Engineers.

Lake Michigan's 2,070 miles of shoreline are privately owned. He estimated that 103.6 miles are suffering "critical" erosion problems, 684.2 miles "non-critical" erosion and 1,282.5 miles are stable.

The state and federal governments differ on the scope of erosion along the 107.6 miles of shoreline between Berrien and Ottawa counties. The federal report said 38.6 miles were classified as "critical" while the state contends that 65 miles face serious problems.

"The entire four-county shoreline is subject to significant erosion of varying degrees," the federal report concluded. "(Erosion) takes place along scattered areas, the longest being the entire Van Buren county shoreline."

The federal survey has placed a \$18.2 million price tag (\$400,000 per mile) for arresting shoreline erosion in Berrien, Van Buren, Allegan and Ottawa counties. The cost to protect the entire Lake Michigan shoreline has been placed at \$51 million.

The federal report recommends the construction of artificial beaches as the best

means of arresting erosion in the four-county area.

It concluded that beaches are energy dissipaters meaning they cushion wave action against the shoreline. The erection of bulkheads, seawalls, revetments, groins and offshore breakwaters tend to impede the natural processes thus creating erosion problems in other areas according to the report.

"Many people are unknowingly damaging their neighbor's property by constructing breakwaters on their own land," said Marks. "There is need for a common protective works program."

Many of the questions addressed to the legislators focused on the need for tax relief for shoreline property owners. Several property owners related stories of having property assessments increase while their land continues to shrink because of erosion.

Two township supervisors who attended the hearing, Richard Bus of South Haven and Jerry Sarno of Covert, said they were constantly reviewing shoreline property assessments.

Big Push Begins In Lansing For Gas Tax Increase

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Legislative backers of a proposed two-cent increase in Michigan's seven-cents-per-gallon gasoline tax are bracing for an all-out push to pass the controversial package this week.

The crux of the total \$83.3 million that would be raised is a proposal to divert \$20.8 million—or half a cent of the increase—to a fund shared by the municipal transit systems of 11 cities across the state.

Highway, trucking, Teamster and auto club lobbies have been vigorous opponents of the proposal that Gov. William G. Milliken has labeled his No. 1 legislative priority.

But Monday, support for the long-stalled measure began rolling amid a flurry of position reversals and high-priced persuasion tactics.

In Detroit, chief executives of the four major auto companies

joined in an endorsement statement by the board of directors of Detroit Renaissance, Inc., chief civic booster of the city.

Max Fisher, wealthy Detroit philanthropist and chairman of Detroit Renaissance, announced the agreement signed by board chairman Henry Ford II, of Ford Motor Co., Roy D. Chapin, of American Motors, Richard Gerstenberg of General Motors Corp., and Virgil Boyd, vice chairman of the board of Chrysler.

Fisher labeled the agreement "an historic departure from long-established opposition to diversion of state gasoline taxes from highway construction and maintenance."

He said, "The collective corporate decisions involved in reaching unanimous endorsement of this program would not lightly nor easily be reached."

And in Lansing, Milliken, who already has departed from usual practice to warn he will veto

any plan omitting the mass transit proposal, produced a "special message" on the subject.

He praised the package for its potential contribution to economic gain through the estimated \$62.4 million in highway development, and said it would offer "thousands of additional jobs outside the transportation industry."

Milliken also publicly reaffirmed his intention to overhaul the state's highway department into a combined department of transportation and highways that would include urban transit, aviation, waterways and ports in addition to present roadway supervision.

Across the street from the Capitol, urban transit interests and the Greater Detroit Board of Commerce staged a lavish banquet in a hotel for lawmakers who face a decision on the issue yet this week.

Feb. 4 Deadline For Covert Vote

COVERT — Deadline for registration to vote in the special March 6 Covert school district election is Feb. 4 at 5 p.m.

Residents of the district, which includes Covert township and portions of the Bangor, Coloma, Watervliet and South Haven area, may register with their respective township clerks.

The school board is seeking approval of a \$4,450,000 bond issue in the special election scheduled for March 6, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the township hall.

If approved, district bonds would be sold to finance a new middle school building, additions to the elementary school, high school, and gymnasium, a bus storage and maintenance garage, an athletic field, and additional land for site purposes.

State Department of Social Services has agreed to increase the rent contribution of

persons on welfare from \$48 to \$76 per month for the low-rent project.

Increase In Rent Rejected

SOUTH HAVEN — A proposed increase in rent for the city of South Haven low-rent housing project has been denied by the federal price and wage control commission.

The proposed increase had been scheduled to take effect January 1.

Tenants pay rent based on a percentage of their income. The housing commission had proposed to increase the percentage from 21.8 to 25 per cent.

Executive Director Ronald Booth also reported at the commission's regular monthly meeting last night that the